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LITERATURE.

"TWELVE ENGLISH STATESMEN."—*Walpole*.
By John Morley. (Macmillan.)

GIBBON said of his own life-work that his experience as an officer in the Hampshire Militia had qualified him all the better for writing history. This summary of Walpole's career is a proof that a far greater share in the conduct of the world's affairs furnishes no disqualification for undertaking the portrayal of a past politician. At almost every page in this biography there occurs some novel illustration drawn from contemporary events, or a striking coincidence to some action of Walpole which may be traced in one of his successors in government. At the opening of the narrative the consecutive return of Walpole at every general election for his pocket borough of Kings Lynn during forty years is compared with the fact—a not displeasing parallel to a writer imbued with affection for the democracy—that "two members of the existing House of Commons (1889) have held what are virtually the same seats without a break, one of them for fifty-nine years and the other for fifty-four years." Turn over the page and the question fiercely debated in 1701, whether the English ministry, limited and Protestant under a Hanoverian king, might not be upset through some sudden revulsion of political opinion in favour of a Stuart rule, "Catholic and dependent on France," becomes now more a matter for argument by the apt reference to the danger to the French Republic in 1873 had not "personal caprice or stubborn principle in the Comte de Chambord saved France from a Legitimist restoration." Such allusions as these and some more caustic touches confront the reader everywhere. The oft-repeated assertion by the cynic of to-day, that the present popular franchise has brought into birth such "violent turn-over majorities" as occurred at the general elections of 1874 and 1880 is refuted by a reference to the elections under the limited suffrages of 1710 and 1784. Pulteney, though he had seceded "from the regulars of his party," is said to have continued to sit on Whig benches in the childish belief that the virtue of Whig principles would still dwell in him; and the hit will go home to many politicians. The characters of Pulteney, Bolingbroke, the second George, and the most prominent personages of the period stand out in a bright light in Mr. Morley's pages.

Walpole was introduced into ministerial life at the instance of the Duke of Marlborough, a shrewd judge of character, who easily realised the talents concealed under the plain exterior of the Norfolk baronet. Godolphin, whose financial powers had secured for him a marvellous hold on the leading financiers in Lombard Street, was then chiefly

responsible for the domestic administration of the ministry; and his new assistant's quickness in acquiring the mysterious arts of the financial world and his staunchness to his colleagues soon gained the high treasurer's heart, who is said to have recommended in the hour of death Walpole's fortunes to the Duchess of Marlborough. The older politician was more conspicuous for tact than his pupil was, but they possessed in common many traits of character. They were both fond of pleasure; and both left office, after many years of uninterrupted sway, with fortunes but little improved by the control of the public purse. The indiscreet prosecution of Sacheverell quickly wrecked Godolphin's ministry; but the few years during which his Whig subordinate had been in office had been used with such effect that Harley pressed him to remain undisturbed, with the remarkable assertion "that he was as good as half of his party put together." A little later his conclusive defence of Godolphin from the charges of mismanagement of the exchequer drew upon him the vengeance of his opponents, and he was neither the first nor the last of the politicians who have found their fortunes improved and their reputations strengthened by expulsion from the House of Commons. Strange to say, the return of his friends to power on the accession of George I. contributed but slightly to Walpole's advancement in position, although his influence in the Commons soon proved more potent than that of any of his colleagues. In his person evil and good fortune followed one another in quick succession. A subordinate office was his in the autumn of 1714. When twelve months passed away he was exalted to the pre-eminent position of first commissioner of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer. A year or two later Whig dissension brought about the dismissal of his brother-in-law and chief associate in politics, Lord Townshend, and forced the reluctant king into accepting Walpole's resignation. In opposition he had the supreme satisfaction of bringing about by his own powers of eloquence the rejection—the contemptuous rejection it might be styled—of the bill for limiting the numbers of the peerage, on which his Whig rivals had based their hopes. Then came the surprising reversal of fortune which led to his long supremacy in politics. Townshend and Walpole rejoined the government, and were soon called to the highest places in the ministry. The failure of the South Sea scheme brought about the disappearance of all their political opponents. Two of their rivals died opportunely, a third was committed to the Tower, and Sunderland, the most dangerous of all, was banished to Northamptonshire with a discredited reputation. Never did statesman have such good fortune for obtaining the lead.

Mr. Morley dwells on Walpole's character at some length, and without condemnation. He was good company—praise which even malice could not withhold from him, though his jokes were more often than not too strong for his not over-particular contemporaries. He was not vindictive—he would not refuse preferment to Pulteney's clerical friend at the moment when Pulteney was violent in opposition. When one of Shippen's friends was convicted of a treason-

able correspondence with the Pretender, the culprit was pardoned on the understanding that his patron absented himself from the House of Commons should any personal accusation be brought against Walpole. His fondness for sport finds a parallel, says Mr. Morley, in that felt by Lord Althorp; but private pleasure did not prevent him from the strictest attention to public business. He neither neglected his own business nor unduly interfered with that of others. If he was not so profound a classical scholar as Pulteney, he possessed quite as much knowledge of Horace as most of the members in the House of Commons desired from their leader. His oratory suited his audience; and, although some of his contemporaries could throw off more abundantly a set of sonorous sentences, the occasions on which his invective scattered destruction in the ranks of his enemies were not few in number. His argument on the Peerage Bill has been pronounced the most effective "parliament argument," with one exception, that Westminster has heard for two centuries. His speeches in his own defence, when the sands of his power were running out, were worthy of a great minister on a great occasion. The love of power, which a long continuance in office never fails to beget, led him into error; but he did not care for place for the sake of its pecuniary emoluments. Sinécures were showered by him on his sons, but this was the fault of the age; and if such happy positions remained, it was better that they should be conferred on the descendants of one who had laboured during a lifetime for his country's benefit than on the offspring of a lord-in-waiting or a bedchamber woman. In the satires of his opponents in the press he was accused of appropriating public funds to his own private use; but Mr. Morley vindicates him completely from this accusation, and is able in this branch of the subject to fortify his own position by the assistance of "a singularly competent hand" from the Treasury.

When Walpole's career was about to end in a peerage and retirement, all the men of talent and politics were outside his cabinet. In those days of mortification he found that many of the mediocrities by whom he was surrounded were intriguing to join the ranks of the enemy. Was the fault due to the unreasonableness of the prime minister's temper? The question is generally answered in the affirmative; but Mr. Morley will have none of it. The blame is placed on Walpole's rivals, on Stanhope and Carteret, even on Townshend. In most of these instances we may be disposed to adopt such a conclusion; but the last is the hardest of all to accept. Their years were almost identical, they had been thrown together all their lives, and the tie had been strengthened by marriage. They had risen and fallen together on the stage of politics more than once; but, when Walpole's influence began to surpass that of his superior in worldly position, all was forgotten. "Whispering tongues can poison truth"; and, after frequent and passionate outbreaks, Townshend withdrew to the country, whence he proudly disdained to return to vex his old colleague. Had Walpole been a little less eager to dominate, had he restrained from pushing his preeminence until it became "Eclipse first

and the rest nowhere," his power might have lasted unbroken. The extract from Hervey's *Memoirs* shows the studied contempt with which the prime minister treated even the great parliamentary borough-intriguer of the day, and the want of support which he could find in his cabinet. The great principles of his life had been to keep things quiet at home, and to preserve peace abroad; but he did not shrink from consenting to retain his position in office as the leader of a war with Spain. This was the chief blot of his career, "the one serious stain on his political reputation"; and it was futile as well as foolish, for his acquiescence in a policy which he disapproved of did not delay his fall for more than a year or two. When that day arrived, he withdrew from Downing Street without an efficient or trustworthy colleague.

Mr. Morley repeats the statement that Walpole's first wife was a daughter of Sir John Shorter, the lord mayor. The confusion, if I remember aright, originated in the ponderous pages of Coxe. The unhappy lady was the granddaughter of the lord mayor; and it was by the marriage of her sister with a Conway that Horace Walpole became related to his lifelong friend, General Conway. A second slight flaw lies in assigning to Sacheverell the emoluments as "rector" of St. Saviour's Church, Southwark. I would also point out that a line of print has got out of place on p. 203.

W. P. COURTNEY.

Our Viceregal Life in India: Selections from my Journal 1884-1888. By the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava. (John Murray.)

THE peregrinations of an Indian governor-general were recounted, fifty years ago, by a lady; and the Hon. Emily Eden's *Up the Country* still remains one of the most readable books we have about India. It pleased Miss Eden to imagine that with the introduction of railways the splendour of a governor-general's progress would fade away, and the governor-general himself degenerate into a first-class passenger with a carpet bag. But, although the railway has made a vast difference, we can understand from Lady Dufferin's journal that what Miss Eden calls "the contrast of public grandeur and private discomfort" may still be displayed on quite as magnificent a scale as when Lord Auckland went on tour; and that a governor-general's wife or sister must still be ready to try every variety of locomotion from an elephant to a palanquin. Miss Eden played chess with Dost Mahomed when he was a refugee at Calcutta, and did her best to give "dear old Ranjit Singh" a slight idea of what was the right thing in bonnets. Lady Dufferin saw the Dost's grandson, Amir Abdul Rahman, at the Rawalpindi Darbar, and tells us of "a nice, gentle trait" in his highness's character. The portly potentate who thinks nothing of ordering men's heads to be cut off—and who even on his visit to British territory was accompanied by an executioner, clad in red velvet and begirt with axe and strangling cord—would spend hours filling forty vases with cut flowers. At Lahore Lady Dufferin saw Ranjit Singh's marble tomb and the ashes of the queens who performed *sati* after his death, the same "poor dear Ranis" whom Miss Eden visited and thought so beautiful and merry. And in the gardens of Shalimar, where Ranjit

Singh gave an evening party in Lord Auckland's honour, Lady Dufferin saw the late Maharaja of Kashmir, then near his death, "such a fine old man, with a handsome and distinguished-looking face and courtly manners"—the same prince whose father Miss Eden was credibly informed had three hundred men flayed alive in one day. At Gwalior, Lady Dufferin was present at the *darbar* when the fortress was restored to the Maharaja, the successor and adopted son of the Scindia who sent Miss Eden an enamelled spice-box. The Mahratta horsemen, who fifty years ago looked so gorgeous in their gold dresses and with their long white spears, have lost something of their picturesqueness, for Scindia has put them into badly fitting white helmets. Perhaps the oddest native troops Lady Dufferin tells us about were the Nabha chief's Highlanders in kilt and sporran, with their dusky legs in pink silk tights.

Countless books have been written on the changes that India has undergone since Miss Eden started a flirtation with the Sikh heir apparent, and was so kind to the pretty laughing girl at Simla, who afterwards became too famous as Lola Montez. As one governor-general has succeeded another—as

"Sultan after sultan with his pomp
Abode his hour or two and went his way"—

principalities and powers have crumbled to dust, new provinces have been added to the Indian empire, and British rule has been extended from China to Afghanistan. Lady Dufferin saw Mandalay on one side and the Khaibar on the other. At Bombay she met a descendant of the Old Man of the Mountains—a solemn little creature of ten, who was asked whether he would rather be with the ladies or with the Lord Sahib, "and replied 'the Lord Sahib,' with so much enthusiasm that we all laughed." His ancestors, according to Marco Polo, were by no means so averse to the charms of female society. At Simla she received a visit from the Nana Sahib's half sister, "a nice-looking but melancholy widow," so ill at the time that she had to be supported into the room and lay gasping on an armchair throughout the interview. At Mandalay Lady Dufferin gave an afternoon party to sixty Burmese ladies, who came all swathed in lovely colours and soft silks, with necklaces of pearls and diamonds in their dark hair, and straight tubes of amber, jade, or gold, as thick as a woman's thumb, stuck in the lobe of the ear. It was at Mandalay that Lady Dufferin began to feel quite tired of gold. "I never conceived such masses of it before, and cannot understand it all at once." On the Sikkim frontier she saw a Lama dance; some of the performers being arrayed in long-sleeved silk robes and enormous hats with peacock feathers, some with their faces daubed with red and gold, and great wigs of yak hair. Lady Dufferin was trying to photograph a group of them, when a boy, whose attire consisted of stripes of white paint, incontinently stood on his head.

But there is something more in these entertaining volumes than the record of viceregal tours, *darbars*, reviews, levees, visits to historic cities, and interviews with memorable persons, with intervals spent in entertaining Anglo-Indian society at Simla or Calcutta. Before she had been many months in the

country Lady Dufferin resolved that the people of India should benefit by her presence among them. She elaborated, and put into practical operation, a scheme which may prove to be the greatest social reform India has witnessed for centuries. The seclusion of women is one of the most terrible curses of the country, not so much because wives and mothers grow up in ignorance and intellectual imbecility—English education has not proved such an unmixed blessing to the men that we need hurry to bestow it on the women; but because it has hitherto deprived them of their share in the incalculable benefits that Western medical science has conferred on the East—benefits which become a hundredfold greater when they reach both sexes. No scheme of missionary enterprise or philanthropic charity, or even of bureaucratic benevolence, holds out a fairer hope of success than the Dufferin fund for giving medical aid to Indian women. No other scheme goes so directly to the heart of an immense evil, and yet clashes so little with a social system which can only be disturbed at the risk of a revolution. Lady Dufferin's Journal should be read if only for the account it gives of the truly noble work with which her name will always be connected. Nor is this the only direction in which the author looked over and beyond the pageantry of official tours and the pleasant frivolities of daily life in Anglo-India. She was keenly interested in everything that concerns the women of the country, and never missed an opportunity of showing her warm sympathy with those who are working for their welfare. Possibly, if more English ladies in India tried this way of relieving the *ennui* of their existence, they too would be the happier for it.

STEPHEN WHEELER.

A Century of Sonnets. By Samuel Waddington. (Bell.)

EVEN Mr. Waddington's name upon a title-page, rich as it is in promise of good things, hardly suffices to stifle the doubts and still the apprehensions with which we open a volume consisting of a hundred sonnets from one pen. So large a collection of poems in a single verse-form is calculated to daunt every one but the sonnet-lover; and the sonnet-lover, who must also be the sonnet-student, is a terribly exacting person. He is the person who feels most keenly that a sonnet can only vindicate its right to be by perfect adequacy of thought and emotion, perfect transparency, beauty, and symmetry of rendering; and he is also the person who knows that no English poet among our really prolific sonneteers—not Shakspeare, not Mrs. Browning, not Tennyson-Turner, not Hartley Coleridge, not Rossetti, not, perhaps, even Wordsworth—has produced in the course of a lifetime a hundred sonnets which bring with them such a vindication.

Is it possible to hope that the number of triumphs which they have failed to score can possibly be scored by Mr. Waddington, who, true and winning poet as he has proved himself, has a muse who is frugal rather than profuse, and who makes her influence manifest in purity and beauty rather than in fecundity of utterance? It is *not* possible; and in proportion to the charm with which the reader realises the impossibility will be

the pleasure he must needs derive from some discoveries he will make while engaged in the perusal of Mr. Waddington's volume. He will find certain sonnets which can hardly fail to strike him as in a high degree excellent; he will also find that the number of really satisfying sonnets is much larger than he could possibly have anticipated; and he will as certainly fail to find more than a very few specimens of Mr. Waddington's sonnet-work which can fairly be described as absolute failures. He approaches such failures most nearly in such sonnets as "Retro me Sathana," which is simply a strained and obscure piece of *grotesquerie*, without any of the attractiveness which belongs to grotesque work that is really good of its kind; and in "The Conservation of Energy," the octave of which is a mere jingle of scientific terminology that Mr. Waddington is utterly unable to fuse into a semblance of poetry. The sestet is certainly more successful; but it is difficult to imagine any conclusion of a sonnet that could atone for such an opening as this:

"Deceived by changes and chance permutation,
We dream of worlds created and worlds ended;
Yet when we see two growths together blended,
Two bodies fused by chemic combination,
We share a microcosmic revelation
Of all cosmogony, if comprehended:
Causation's law can never be transcended,
And what we see is change and not creation."

This, however, is an altogether unique lapse, which it would be unfair to quote did it not serve as such an effective warning to young writers by showing them what may happen even to a poet of Mr. Waddington's inspiration, culture, and fine feeling for the fitness of things, when he yields to the temptation to adopt a method of handling which can never result in anything but a repellently prosaic effect.

In other sonnets which do not strike one as being on the whole successful, the comparative failure—which is much less aggressively obvious than in the lines just quoted—seems due to the fact that the thought loses its momentum too soon. The poet has said all he has to say before the allotted boundary is reached; the consequence being that various sonnets which open with an arresting note of promise fade away in a lame, ineffective, and disappointing conclusion. To give quotations illustrative of this defect would be a graceless occupation of space which can be utilised in a manner much more pleasant and satisfying; but it must be noted by the critic, because when it makes itself manifest it can hardly fail to impair the pleasure of even a really sympathetic and appreciative reader.

This, however, is not a matter upon which it is worth while to dwell. Those who feel the force of the considerations urged in the opening sentences of this review will know that a certain proportion of more or less manifest failure is a thing to be expected as inevitable; the question they are interested in asking is, "What is the nature and extent of Mr. Waddington's success?" Concerning its extent, I have already spoken; and its nature is not difficult to indicate, seeing that in all his poetry, but more especially in his sonnet work, he has shown himself a loyal, consistent, but not slavish disciple of Wordsworth and Matthew Arnold, rather than a

poet of impressive and unclassifiable individuality. He shares with his great predecessor and his great contemporary a love for the meditative handling of grave themes. His thought and treatment, like theirs, have a certain austerity, not too severe, but very bracing after the sensuous turgid riot of much contemporary verse; and he has, like them, a very happy gift of seizing the essential spiritual or ethical or emotional suggestion of some isolated incident or experience, which, save to the penetrative imagination, would seem wholly barren. A pleasing example of this aptitude of mind and habit of feeling is found in the sonnet entitled "Itinerants."

"Whence come these wanderers, from what southern clime,
Playing before my window in the street,
This man and woman in whose presence meet
Impassioned whispings of a world sublime?
As though their sires had sat in olden time
Within the Forum, or at Caesar's feet,
He, sternly gracious, seems my gaze to greet
With the weird grandeur of a Dantesque rhyme;
And she, who moves so gently—she whose mien
Might grace a Beatrice or adorn Love's Queen—
Perchance hath near the Pincian known of yore
The love-lit welcome and the light of home!
Yet vain is all surmise, we'll guess no more.
I said, 'Whence come ye?' and she answered,
'Rome.'"

I should be inclined to suggest that this sonnet would be strengthened by transferring the note of interrogation, with the accompanying pause, from the fourth to the sixth line; and, without hyper-criticism, it might perhaps be possible to point out one or two microscopic flaws. But it is, as a whole, beautiful and satisfying work, and it is work of a kind in which Mr. Waddington always excels. Comparisons between poetry and one or other of the plastic arts are frequent, and indeed inevitable, because all arts that are in any sense arts of presentation must have certain ends in common; and, without forcing a metaphor, it may be said that Mr. Waddington's favourite method of presentation is sculpturesque rather than pictorial—a preference which puts him in a place apart from the crowd of contemporary versifiers who, following—often most extravagantly and unwisely—the lead of Rossetti, seem endeavouring to make words do the work of pigments. Mr. Waddington makes no such mistake. An attentive reader of these sonnets will note an exceptional frugality in the use of colour-epithets even where they might be naturally expected; but the sonnet just quoted, with its realisable and impressive modelling, is a good illustration of his power of dispensing with mere pictorialism as a means to the awakening of the imagination, and of producing his effects by methods which I do not think I am fantastic in describing as sculpturesque.

But space diminishes, and what remains of it can be better employed in illustrative citation than in elaborated comment. I transcribe two sonnets of the hills that are characteristic specimens of the manner in which Mr. Waddington, like the greatest of his masters, can render at once the external features and the spiritual suggestions of nature. They are respectively entitled

"Literature and Nature" and "Helvellyn":

"Mid Cambrian heights around Dolgelly vale,
What time we scaled great Cader's rugged pile,
Or loitered idly where still meadows smile
Beside the Mawddach-stream, or far Cynfael—
No tome or rhythmic page, no pastoral tale,
Our summer-sated senses would beguile,
Or lull our ears to melody, the while
The voiceful rill ran liting down the dale.
In London town once more—behold once more
The old delight returns! 'Mid heights how vast,
In Milton's verse, through what dim paths we wind;
How Keats's canvas glows, and Wordsworth's lore,
As tarn or torrent pure, by none surpass'd,
Sheds light and love—unfathomed, undefined."

This is one of the sonnets which has a conclusion less instead of more weighty than its opening; but it is undoubtedly fine, and so is the following, in which, as will be seen, there is again a reference to the great master:

"To heaven uplifted, throne on throne, behold
A sea of surging mountains, far and near;
Wave upon wave, the encircling heights appear
For ever fixed, for ever onward rolled!
See in the tranquil valleys as of old
Shimmer the sylvan lakes to Wordsworth dear,
Ulleswater, Coniston, and Windermere—
With many an upland tarn the hills unfold.
Helvellyn, round thy crest the swallows wheel
And shriek for glee. To-day we too would feel
The joy of living. Soon life's path once more
Shall lead us downward to the vale below—
O waves that onward roll, ere yet we go,
Your mystic influence on our souls outpoor."

I am compelled to leave unnoticed a large number of poems which are among Mr. Waddington's most characteristic performances—the sonnets which deal with the great problems of life and destiny. The reader's estimate of the intellectual and emotional attitude adopted in such sonnets as "The Gospel of Untruth," "The Penitent," "What Gospel?" "Soul and Body," and "They will not Part or Pass," will, of course, vary with his own convictions, doubts, or denials; but few will be found to refuse admiration to the fine seriousness, the moral enthusiasm, and the serenity—of strenuous earnestness rather than of cold indifference—which are everywhere the distinguishing notes of these poems. As I have said, the contents of the volume are inevitably unequal; but it contains much that cannot fail to give pleasure both to lovers of poetry in general, and to those who find a special attractiveness in that verse-form with which Mr. Waddington's name has become so honourably associated.

JAMES ASHCROFT NOBLE.

William Lloyd Garrison, 1805-1879: the Story of his Life told by his Children. Vols. III. and IV. (Fisher Unwin.)

Anglo-Saxon Abolition of Negro Slavery. By F. W. Newman. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

THE agitator, like the preacher and the singer, is at a disadvantage when the time comes for persons who did not witness his work to estimate him. He is to so large an extent a man of his own time and a creature of opportunity that his words and his actions

are necessarily but ill-understood unless all the conditions under which he wrought are taken into account. For this reason it is only too easy to underestimate the services rendered by William Lloyd Garrison to the cause of Negro emancipation in the United States. That movement brought into prominence men of clearer insight than Garrison. He was swayed by many prejudices; and his judgment, even when most deliberately formed, was far from being infallible. Too often his speech was extravagant and his action indiscreet. Yet, if we try to conceive the movement without Garrison in it, we see at once how vast a space he filled. His biographers designate him, not altogether inaptly, the Moses of the Abolitionist band. He had the courage and disinterestedness of Moses, if not his statesmanship. He was an agitator, and not a statesman. There were abolitionists before his day; but he may be said to have been the first warrior in that cause. He opened up the way as a pioneer rather than as a guide. Mr. John Bishop Estlin, of Bristol, who was Garrison's host in 1846, summed him up well when, in a letter to Henry Crabb Robinson, he wrote:

"In the infallibility of Mr. Garrison's judgment I certainly do not place full confidence; but *unlimited* in his singleness of purpose, his noble disinterestedness, and his indefatigable zeal in the anti-slavery cause."

Yet greater men than Garrison have been sufficiently commemorated in much smaller biographies than the ponderous work which is now under review. Indeed, his biographers would have done a better service to their father's memory if they had produced a book for reading instead of a work for reference. Few persons can have so absorbing an interest in Garrison as to voluntarily undertake the task of reading these four great volumes. They are not likely to be read unless under some kind of compulsion, such, for instance, as honest reviewers labour under; and even honest reviewers may be excused from wading through all the musty articles, speeches, and extracts from letters that go far to make the work so bulky. Of course, as Garrison's life covers all the period of active agitation against Negro slavery in America, a work like this has value as a history of the movement. But, even so, there is—perhaps inevitably, for the story must needs centre in Garrison—such a lack of true proportion that the value as history is much discounted. The authors have shown an "infinite capacity for taking pains"; but the outcome of their efforts is neither first-rate biography nor first-rate history. Now that their herculean task is over, they might do worse than prepare, or get some one else to prepare—say for Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.'s series of "American Statesmen"—an abstract which should present the personality of their father to the world in some clear and accessible manner.

That Garrison was a strenuous upholder of the principles of the Peace Society is perhaps no more than one might expect from a man of his combative disposition. For it is a curious fact, which I do not attempt to explain, that no set of men are more combative than members of peace societies. One of the three main objects which, at the outset of his public career, Garrison placed before him was "the perpetuity of national peace." The solution

of the slavery question which he desired was not suppression, but a dissolution of union with the holders of slaves. This is what he advocated strenuously until the war of secession had actually commenced. Even in 1861 he wrote in the *Liberator*:

"The people of the North should recognise the fact that THE UNION IS DISSOLVED, and act accordingly. They should see in the madness of the South the hand of God, liberating them from 'a covenant with death and an agreement with hell,' made in a time of terrible peril and without a conception of inevitable consequences, and which has corrupted their morals, poisoned their religion, petrified their humanity, as towards the millions in bondage, tarnished their character. . . . Now, then, let there be a convention of the Free States called to organise an independent government on free and just principles; and let them say to the slave states, 'Though you are without excuse for your treasonable conduct, depart in peace! . . . Organise your own confederacy, if you will, based upon violence, tyranny, and blood, and relieve us from all responsibility for your evil course'" (vol. iv., p. 15).

A few months later Garrison was a convert from these views, and engaged in strenuously demanding the maintenance of the Union. This sudden change of opinion is one of the main grounds for the charge of inconsistency that has been brought against him. Such an accusation against an honest man is surely foolish. No growing mind can be consistent in mere opinion all through life. There is a deeper consistency which is undisturbed by changing views—consistency to truth, not to theories about truth. As Prof. Dowden says, "Every one doubtless moves in some regular orbit, and all aberrations are only apparent; but what the precise orbit is, we must be slow to pronounce." Garrison was consistently the friend of negro emancipation, according to his lights, however much his ideas might vary as to the policy which it was best to pursue to attain the desired object.

Men of more steadfast ideas than Garrison might easily have wavered in their opinion of Abraham Lincoln—for Lincoln himself was at first, at any rate, far from steadfast. Garrison was much exercised in his mind about him, and gave way, at short intervals, to extremes of speech in praise and in censure. In 1849, he permitted an article by Wendell Phillips to appear in the *Liberator*, in which Lincoln was described as "the slave hound of Illinois." Later, when Lincoln had come to the front, we find him described by Garrison as being possessed of "manly courage" and "rare self-possession"; and in the course of the very same year as having "evidently not a drop of anti-slavery blood in his veins," and as "incapable of uttering a humane or generous sentiment respecting the enslaved millions in our land." A few years later he was the strenuous upholder of Lincoln in the controversy with Mr. Francis William Newman—a controversy by no means adequately dealt with in the biography. Garrison's position is stated fully enough, and letters expressing approval from Harriet Martineau and others are given. But here, as too often throughout the work, the materials requisite to enable the reader to judge for himself are not given. Happily the publication in collected form of a number of Mr. F. W. Newman's contributions to the slavery question

provides what is wanting in the biography. Mr. Newman had a strong case. Abraham Lincoln was a well-meaning, rather dull man, quite unfitted to be President at any time—most of all at such a crisis as that during which he was appointed. He was not the chosen Republican candidate, and was only accepted because it was supposed that a better man, with more defined principles and purpose, would be defeated. Lincoln, when he reached the White House, had neither definite principles nor even a definite policy. With characteristic caution he waited until he could ascertain which cause would prove the stronger, and therefore the safer for himself. For a considerable time he inclined towards the slave power. As the Abolitionists of that day said: "Mr. Lincoln desired greatly to have God Almighty on his side, but was determined to have Kentucky with him." Had the South been more discreet or the emancipation party less persistent, Lincoln would probably have been one of the most useful allies of the former that ever sat in the presidential chair. It was the infatuation of the South that, more than anything else, destroyed slavery. The system was made too hideous, else it might be flourishing to-day. The conscience of the North on this subject was always remarkably sluggish. Lincoln was not the man to arouse it. When he did act against the South it was not slavery that troubled him, but secession. Even then, if the rebels had submitted, he would have welcomed them and let them keep their slaves. The emancipation proclamation was not issued for two years, and then only under extreme pressure and with manifest reluctance. How the war was conducted is matter of history. That the North won was due first of all to Southern blunders, and afterwards to the moral enthusiasm that grew up in the Northern armies. The necessary re-organisation after the war called for even higher statesmanship than the conduct of the war itself; and the unfitness of Lincoln and Johnson for the task has borne evil fruit to this day. True, any perfect adjustment of the social relations was out of human power. Nature will have her own, and in her own time. Under the best conditions the evils of the slave system would take a century or two to work out of both white and negro. But the conditions were far other than the best. As soon as peace was declared Lincoln, not of malice aforethought, but (to use Mr. Newman's phrase) because of "the puzzled head and crooked conscience of the man," proceeded to hand over the "liberated" negroes to the tender mercies of their enraged ex-masters. Even Walt Whitman sang the praises of reconciliation—forgetful, apparently, that when the Northern white and the Southern white rushed forward for their fraternal embrace unhappy Sambo was being trampled under their feet. Neither North nor South, as a whole, ever had any particular affection for Sambo. At this day he is loathed in the North and hated in the South. A late number of the excellent *New York Forum* tells how he is treated in the North as a social outcast not to be fraternised with on any terms. Here in England we cannot understand the detestation in which he is held there. Few among ourselves would hesitate to maintain friendly intercourse with a

gentlemanly person, just because his skin was naturally dusky. Perhaps we have not quite the same respect for the negro when he is still a noble savage. At any rate, when a traveller comes home from Africa and tells how freely he has been killing the natives, we do not look upon him as a murderer but as a hero. While the North treat the negro with contempt, the South treat him with infamous brutality. To keep up the spirit of hatred against him falsehoods are circulated of his licentiousness and general depravity, until it is half-believed that virtue cannot exist within a black skin. Then, partly in fear and partly in hate, false charges are brought against individuals, who are forthwith, without trial, put to death with nameless horrors. Clearly in America the declaration that all men are equal still means all white men. Perhaps the negro in the South is not a beautiful creature. There has been nothing to make him so; nothing to attract the better members of the race to those States. But, on the whole, taking him at his worst, I think I would rather be responsible for his sins than for the sins of his persecutors.

Mr. F. W. Newman's volume consists of two articles contributed to *Fraser's* (not *Fraser's*, as it is printed throughout the book) *Magazine* in 1879, a third article intended for the same periodical but withdrawn, and a lecture on "The Good Cause of President Lincoln," delivered before the Emancipation Society in 1863. Such writings, after so long an interval, might seem to be out of date; but in view of what has been said and of much more that might be said, not only about the American but also about our own weak hold on the principles of liberty, Mr. Newman must be pronounced to have done good service in thus reproducing them.

WALTER LEWIN.

NEW NOVELS.

The Bell of Saint Paul's. By Walter Besant. In 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

Jezebel's Friends. By Dora Russell. In 3 vols. (Spencer Blackett & Hallam.)

A Conspiracy of Silence. In 2 vols. By G. Colmore (Sonnenschein.)

Arne and the Fisher Lassie. Translated from B. Björnson by Walter Law. "Bohn's Library." (Bell.)

A Ne'er-do-weel. By D. Cecil Gibbs. (Remington.)

Mrs. Senior, jun. By Foulis Hayes. (Roper & Drowley.)

We have read Mr. Besant's *The Bell of St. Paul's* with a great deal of pleasure—with more, we think, than most of his recent work. This preference may be partly due to the fact that we are unfashionable enough to take little interest in novels about "social reform"; and that social reform, though not entirely absent from *The Bell of St. Paul's*, is very little present there. But this is not the only reason for our liking. Not often, we think, has Mr. Besant married his vivid, humorous style and his half-practical, half-fantastic grasp of character more thoroughly than here. To propitiate God Momus, it may be well to allow that there is in parts a slightly excessive

following of Dickens. Cornelia, who is "in the church" (that is to say, a pew-opener), is unquestionably Dickensish; the Hungarian chevalier is a little like Newman Noggs and a little like Mr. Micawber; while the catastrophe-scene, in which by his aid the machinations of the wicked scientific man, Oliver Luttrell, are defeated, has a certain smack of the memorable discomfiture of Uriah Heap. But, as it happens, these are not the parts or the personages of the book wherein one takes—wherein, at least, we take—a main interest. The hero, Laurence Waller, comes home as a prosperous Australian youngster to search out, by his mother's behest, the decaying remains of her English family. He finds them in no less historic a place than Bankside, takes lodgings as a stranger with them, ingratiates himself with them, and of course carries off spoil, if not according to the liberal ancient rule of "every man a damsel or two," at any rate to the extent of one damsel. With this good old "revolution-and-discovery" plot are interwound two minor plots: the story of a child bought by a benevolent but eccentric doctor from the gipsies, and educated to the full of modern education in the fond belief that this will develop in him not only all the Might, but, as Mr. Carlyle might have said, all the Oughts; and the story of a minor bard, a certain Sylvester Indagine, who has retired from the world in the early fifties under the keen blast of a cutting review, and has done nothing but nurse himself since. That the man of pure science turns out a greedy heartless young scoundrel and the man of pure literature an amiable chivalrous old dotard may be anticipated; but, still, though these are interesting studies enough, they are not the main charm of the book. That charm is given by the way in which Mr. Besant has combined four things which he possesses in no ordinary measure—the love of literature, the love of romance, the love of this great London, and the love of all the honest pleasures of sense—in sketching the courtship of Althea Indagine and Laurence Waller. The Australian is a good fellow enough, shrewd and honest and kindly; but about Althea, with her dreams of old literature and her sojourns on the modern river, there is something of the divinity of her ever-famous namesake and name-giver. Nor is the second heroine, Cassandra, unattractive. But Althea should not have gone to Australia. Australia was created to send pretty girls to England, not to abstract them from us.

Miss Dora Russell apparently does not share that idea of the most famous Queen of Israel which some paradoxers had formed for themselves long before M. Renan, by the exercise of his whimsies and by laying hands on the forty-fifth psalm, has elaborated, and which an English magazine writer "lifted" from him without acknowledgment not long ago. Frances Forth, to whom her creatress applies the name of Jezebel in its most uncomplimentary sense, is a personage who has nothing good, except good looks, about her. She has (as the reader perceives when he meets her sister at the very opening of the story burying a small long box in the sand) been no better than she should be even before the story itself begins; and if she is any better than she should be during its progress, the standard of

moral obligation implied in the "should" must be a remarkably low one. She forces the said sister to jilt the man she loves and contract a marriage with the man she hates to save her own reputation; she herself marries (without loving him) a chivalrous middle-aged colonel; she deserts him and breaks his heart; she practically contrives the death of the man she has eloped with, and so forth. Ruth, the younger sister, though almost entirely guiltless, is for a time scarcely more fortunate; and, though we are left to perceive dimly a sort of reparation for her in the future, almost the whole circle of "Jezebel's Friends" comes to a bad end. Unfortunately, Miss Dora Russell, from whose hand we remember some work very tolerable in its own kind, has not shown herself a good workwoman here. Scarcely one of the characters is alive. It is difficult to say whether Frances—who is no fatal enchantress such as Jezebel should be, but an exceedingly commonplace and rather vulgar young person, with no strong points of any kind, except apparently strong selfishness and passions which might have been strong but for her frivolity—or the Major—Ruth's husband and tyrant, a sort of stage villain of brutality and cunning—is more disagreeable or less lifelike. A few touches of genius, or even talent, might have made the girls' selfish father, Colonel Forth, a very amusing character; but as it is, he is as dull as ditchwater. The opening of the story presents what is in effect a physical impossibility, which Miss Russell's laudably innocent mind has not perceived; and we are somewhere told that somebody's mother thought "a charming girl would be a shield and buckler to him amid the pitfalls of life." Here is a double Hibernicism. It is not usual, except for Irish heroes in a row with the police, to use charming girls as shields and bucklers. And if you did, what good is a shield and buckler against a pitfall? Do you lay the charming girl—the shield and buckler—down and walk over her?

A Conspiracy of Silence opens with some show of the literary power which certain people found in *Concerning Oliver Knox*, nor is this wanting in other passages besides the opening. "G. Colmore," however, has, as it seems to us, made the somewhat serious mistake of alienating the reader's sympathy from her heroine at the crucial point of the book. Charlotte March is a pretty and poor girl who earns, or helps to earn, her living as a governess, dislikes her vocation heartily, and aspires, though less than her mother does, to wealth. To her first casually, and then as a friend of her cousin's, enters a handsome and extremely rich young quire, Eustace Sotheran. Eustace is very eccentric, and the reader is not long left in doubt as to the extent and cause of this eccentricity; but Charlotte, who accepts him as a lover, and who has a special horror of madness, remains in ignorance. Eustace, with the double excuse of his malady and his love, evades her suspicion. The cousin tries to enlighten her, but is partly deceived by the mother and partly hampered by his own feeling of rivalry; while the mother, who hears of the facts through him, deliberately cheats her conscience in order that her daughter may not

lose a great match. All this, of course, enlists the reader's sympathy strongly for Charlotte. But Charlotte herself forfeits it (at least in our case) by the purely selfish character of her behaviour when the terrible truth comes upon her. She seems to forget all about her love, does not feel a tinge of pity, and posts off at once to the cousin (who is a lawyer) to know if she cannot get a divorce. This may be natural, but is not engaging.

It is rather curious, critically speaking, how badly modern Scandinavian literature bears translating into English. We shall not pause to consider how far it may be true that the difficulty is due to its combination of borrowings from certain older and more sophisticated literatures, and a certain *engouement* for foreign ideas, with strong local colour. But, as a rule, the Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish stories translated of late years are extremely disappointing. We must certainly apply this description to the Bohn Library version of Bjornstjerna Bjornson's "Arne" and "The Fisher Lassie." Both stories have a certain interest as depicting Norse manners in the country and on the seaboard; but these are pretty well known already. The interest of character seems to us at once thin in substance and over elaborated in treatment. "Arne" is the better of the two, though what may be called the overture of "The Fisher Lassie" contains—in the strange and (except for the said lassie) abortive intrigue between the father and mother of Petra—a really powerful subject of which much more could have been made.

Mr. Cecil Gibbs should have had a friendly critic beside him when he was making up his MS. for press, and should have let that critic slash with desperate hook at least a third of his volume. The opening sketches of the life of a sort of son of Heth in a Scotch manse are not bad, and the South African scenes of the latter part might be worse; but both want "cutting," concentrating, and readjusting generally.

It is almost enough to say of *Mrs. Senior, junior*, that very great literary talent indeed would have been necessary to carry off its central situation, which is preposterously improbable in the first place, and, to use plain words, exceedingly nauseous, though not actually immoral, in the second. Mr. Foulis Hayes writes very badly; and his errors in taste and judgment of all kinds may be said to be worthy of his selection of subject—which is, to put it plumply, the assumption of a woman's part by a man carried out to the length of going through the form of marriage with a lovesick boy, and the constant exchange between them of all forms of endearment compatible with ignorance of the actual fact on the boy's part. The only thing to be said for the book is that it has a sort of bustle of narrative which might have been better employed; but which, by those who have developed their tastes in this direction, and blunted them in all others, by a long course of shilling dreadfuls, may be appreciated.

GEORGE SAINTSBURY.

GIFT BOOKS.

By Pike and Dyke. By G. A. Henty. (Blackie.) Mr. Henty is deservedly a "favourite writer" of boys' books. His stories are always full of stirring incident, graphically told, and they are manly and wholesome also. In these respects *By Pike and Dyke* is worthy of its predecessors, but it fails as a story. Despite his thrilling adventures and hairbreadth escapes, we really do not care twopence about Ned, afterwards Sir Edward Martin; and to his elevation and his love affairs we are alike indifferent. The fact is we do not know him. He is little more than a marionette who has to go through certain scenes to illustrate the struggle for freedom in the Netherlands. Nevertheless, there is plenty of good reading in the book. The mission of Ned to deliver letters from William the Silent to his adherents at Brussels, the fight of the *Good Venture* with the Spanish man-of-war, the battle on the ice at Amsterdam, the siege of Haarlem, are all told with a vividness and skill which are worthy of Mr. Henty at his best. If the book does nothing else, it will at least interest them in one of the most terrible and noble struggles in the history of the world.

The Conquest of the Moon. A story of the Bayouda. By A. Laurie. With numerous Illustrations. (Sampson Low.) This is a semi-scientific tale of marvellous adventure of the type which M. Jules Verne has made popular. The setting of the story is French. The characters are of the usual kind, including a pair of omniscient Frenchmen, some villainous Germans, a frigid baronet and his lovely daughter, and a good many Nubians and followers of the Mahdi. A mountain of pyrites makes a convenient magnet for attracting the moon to an observatory in the Soudan, and a sudden accident transfers the observatory and mountain together into an immense lunar crater. There are many schoolboys who will follow with great interest the travellers' expedients for returning to their point of departure, and who will probably resent the suggestion that the whole party was hypnotised and surrounded with illusions by the acts of a dwarfish magician.

Chronicles of Elfland.—Elf-knights. By M. A. Curtois. (Remington.) "The Elf-knights" are creatures of a chivalric and romantic kind, to whom the fantastic tricks of Pucks and gnomes and the ordinary sprites of wood and field are altogether unknown. The story is full of a sweet seriousness that will remind some of its readers of the elfin knights who rode on Sir Huon's right hand, "when with King Oberon he came to Fairyland." By doughty deeds and heroic struggles, a poor wood-elf becomes Sir Ilon, the Elf-knight, who wins the love of the Lady Florette, in spite of all the charms of the Gnome-Queen, the spells of the Wizard Rodenzus, and the furious onslaughts of the Giant Alato. All through the story, to quote the prefatory poem, "the martial music rings its wild refrain." There are dark forests and "the clamour of eager multitudes," and the horns of Elfland blowing for a mighty tournament, which ought to ensure the favour of the more seriously minded among its youthful readers.

The Witch of Atlas. A Ballooning Story. By H. Park Bowden. (Sampson Low.) The *Witch of Atlas* brings us back to the "fairy tales of science," and the complex affections of modern life. The book is a love story concerned with the fortunes of a beautiful aeronaut and an ideal Irishman. He is ready for any adventure in cloudland. She is no sooner dashed to the earth with a torn balloon than she is off to Paris, braving the Prussian shot and shell, to bring back the necessary surgeon. It is a work full of lively adventure, ending (as all such

stories should end) in a "tender elation," and the sealing of a long-expected compact.

Beyond the Black Waters. A Tale. By A. L. O. E. (Nelson.) A new story by A. L. O. E. is sure of a hearty welcome, and her numerous readers will find no falling-off from the level of her former work in this tale of saints and sinners living "beyond the black waters." To use a more conventional style of description, it is an account of the convicts in the Andaman Islands, and of the Karens of Upper Burmah, and especially of their conversion to Christianity by Brother Ko Thah Byn, "a remarkable man who stands conspicuous among them as a lighthouse at night." There is a strange murder and a most unexpected confession; but everything ends as the reader could wish, except that the comical young "scientist" appears to be unnecessarily killed in the course of a fantastic experiment.

The Wreck of the Argo; or, *The Island Home.* By F. G. Fowell. (Ward & Downey.) Mr. and Mrs. Seymour, with their four sons—a happy and united family—leave the wreck of the *Argo* and land on an uninhabited island of the Pacific. How they lived, what adventures they met with, what treasure they found—in fact, the history of their two years' sojourn on the island is here described. Mr. Seymour is always imparting useful knowledge to the boys, or telling some stirring anecdote; so the tale is both entertaining and instructive. That the Seymour family refrained from work on Sunday was very well, but the fact is mentioned an unnecessary number of times.

The Brig and the Lugger. By Hugh Mulleux Walsley. (Hutchinson.) The scene of this story is laid at the time of the French Revolution. The hero is an English naval officer, whose adventures are of the most varied and thrilling description. He is shipwrecked, imprisoned in the Temple, captures French ships, is the carrier of dispatches from Napoleon to England, takes part in the expulsion of the French from St. Domingo, and finally falls in love and marries a French lady. Col. Walsley may be congratulated on being at home on the deck of a British man-of-war. His book can be warmly recommended to boys.

Polly: a New-fashioned Girl. By L. T. Meade. (Cassell.) The title of this book is somewhat of a misnomer, for although Polly Maybright gives a sufficient amount of trouble to those around her, and in various ways causes plenty of stir, yet the true heroine—at all events, the centre of such interest as the story possesses—is the Australian girl, Flower Dalrymple. Polly is, after all, a sort of "understudy" to Flower; although it must be admitted that she plays this part remarkably well, annoying her elder and Martha-ish sister, Helen, to a sufficient extent. Perhaps the author of *Polly* goes too far when she makes Flower very nearly murder a child by way of showing her passion. The only fault to be found with this book is that it is too subtly psychological for its meaning to be quite obvious to children, except such of them as are nursery Merediths. Yet there is plenty of tumbling and temper in it, too. Parents, even more than children, will find it profitable for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in paternal righteousness. Dr. Maybright is a model father, for he takes the loss of his wife, and of his eyesight too, philosophically; even the domestic chaos which follows in the wake of Mrs. Maybright's death does not unduly affect him. *Polly* is an excellent girls' book for grown-up people.

Soap-Bubbles. By Isabella Webble. (Walter Smith & Innes.) There is a good deal of fancy in this book, but it seems to us to be some-

what misdirected. The meaning of the stories, such as it is, will scarcely be appreciated by young folks, and they will not appear very wise to older people. It is really quite impossible for either old or young to believe in the rapture of a dead shell on returning to the depths of the sea; but "The Angel Pity's Prayer" and many other touches throughout the book show that the author is not to be despaired of, and that one who occasionally can write so tenderly and prettily may write much better things some day.

Dora's Doll's-House. By the Hon. Mrs. Greene. (Nelson.) Dora was a very naughty little girl, wilful and selfish, and very unkind to her little brother Charley, and always telling tales against him. She gave her good parents much pain, although they gave her a beautiful doll's-house—was disobedient also. Such behaviour can only have a bad end; and that end was the burning of the doll's-house and part of her father's. It was like, also, to cause the death of the tender-hearted and delicate mother; but when things come to the worst they mend, and so did Dora and so did her mother. Anyone who wishes to see how this pathetic and truly moral story can be told in two hundred and fifty-four pages can do so by purchasing or borrowing (we recommend the latter comparatively) *Dora's Doll's-House*.

For Auld Lang Syne. By Alice Weber. (Griffith, Farran & Co.) To those who have found pleasure in reading Miss Thackeray's stories, Miss Alice Weber's book will be very welcome. There is an old-world charm and sweetness in this tale of a happy Hampshire home which reminds us of *Old Kensington*. The same quaintness pervades both. *For Auld Lang Syne* is like a garden when old-fashioned flowers hide the crumbling walls, and the sun dial marks the time over the grass-grown walls. In these days it is refreshing to come across a heroine so simple and womanly as Molly Talbot—"a little rosebud set with wilful thorns and sweet as English air could make her." In her love of introspection she brings back to us Maggie Tulliver; but she is a creation apart, and a charming creation too. Her girlish idea of self-immolation—to marry the man she pities to prove herself worthy of the man she loves—is the key note of the book. The character of the old father, and his Anglo-Indian reminiscences of "Auld Lang Syne," are drawn with a loving hand; and the account of the misunderstanding between father and daughter is given with true pathos. Miss Weber's novel is one that may be placed in the hands of all young readers. The tone is pure and the moral good.

Thorndyke Manor: a Tale of Jacobite Times. By Mary C. Rowsell. (Blackie.) Among adult readers the historical novel to which Scott gave such a long-continued vogue has gone a little out of fashion; but from the juveniles stories of the past continue to receive a warm welcome, especially when, as in Miss Rowsell's new tale, brightly and naturally conceived characters play their part in an exciting plot. The most thrilling portion of the action arises out of the machinations of Hiram Peckover, the wicked and treacherous steward—the steward, like the baronet of fiction, being nearly always a villain of the deepest dye—who, by means of a forged letter and other devilries, contrives that the hero shall be accused of complicity in a Jacobite plot. Of course, Peckover is finally unmasked, and the conclusion of a very interesting story vindicates poetic justice in a manner which will prove eminently satisfactory to its young readers. The picture of English life in the earlier Georgian times is very realisable; and the only striking fault is the aggressively modern tone of many of the conversations. For the

sake of appearances we have an occasional "Prithce" or "Odd's life"; but much of the talk would have been simply impossible at the period of the story.

When Mother was Little. By S. P. Yorke. (Fisher Unwin.) There is nothing specially fresh in the central idea of this book, but it is very freshly and interestingly worked out, and the theme is one of which the little ones do not easily tire. The mother of the story tells to her own children the story of the first ten years of her life; and other mothers, who are not adapts in the art and mystery of autobiography, will find in it something to read to their children when they make the ever-recurring request for a story. All the incidents are very natural and unsensational; but the juveniles will be excited by some of the little heroine's experiences, which are related in a very simple, vivacious, and attractive style.

The Seven Golden Keys. by James E. Arnold (Blackie), is a fairy tale; and, as even fairy tales in these days are expected to have a moral, there is a moral here. A little girl named Hilda wanders into a wood, and there meets with a fairy queen of the good old type, who sets her in search of seven golden keys which will unlock a casket containing some wondrously good thing. The keys are certain virtues, as truth, patience, kindness, &c. The child meets with a variety of marvellous things and people, and, of course, finally wins the keys. We are not told in the end what the casket contained, the guessing of which may be a pleasant game for winter evenings.

CHINESE domesticities are an unexplored region to most of our young folk, who may be introduced to them by the perusal of *Smitten and Slain*, by A. V. V. (Nelson). The chief object of the story, however, is to show the evils of opium, which here figure as those of drinking would do in a story of English life—the opium-smoking saloon playing the part of the familiar public-house. The hero is a young married man, who contracts the fatal habit, and comes to ruin in consequence. There are English people, too; and the contrast between the ideas of a young English lady and the Chinese matrons whom she visits is well set forth. Incidentally, moreover, we are shown some evils arising from another Chinese habit—the too ardent study for competitive examinations in an unlucky aspirant who, "after three days' incessant mental strain, had been discovered dead in the little cell-like apartment allotted to each student, with some splendidly-done papers before him"—a calamity which, so far as we know, has not yet happened at Burlington House. Most of the story, however, is bright and pleasant, though its ominous title is justified by a dismal ending so far as the Chinese characters are concerned.

It might have been, by A. V. V. (Shaw), is an historical novel of the orthodox school, in which the main interest centres in a group of fictitious personages whose fortunes are intermixed with real characters. The scene is laid during the Gunpowder Plot, and the book will be a good one to give young people a lively idea of that famous affair. Hence we have portraits of Catesby, Percy, and the rest, while King James himself appears on the scene, as well as the second Cecil and other famous people. There is happily no attempt at either whitewashing or blackening; and the difficult character of Garnet is skilfully and, so far as we can judge, fairly treated. The hero, Aubrey Louvaine, is the favourite one of books for young people—a lad of good intentions but easily led into mischief. He gets into trouble through love of pleasure and gay company, and, falling into the society of the conspirators, has to hide from the pursuit of the authorities. A good Puritan minister, himself in adversity, aids him to

escape. By a judicious course of hardship he comes to a right mind, and the necessary reformation is happily wrought in his character. The author has worked up her historic and social details with considerable care. There is a fair variety of domestic character in the hero's family, and the description of London localities as they were in the days of the first Stuart will interest those familiar with the same places in their present very different aspect.

The End Crowns All. By Emma Marshall. (Shaw.) This well-known author has here given us the life-story of a constant woman. Stephanie Bolingbroke had to pass through many trials. She had to soothe her invalid and fretful widowed mother, and to screen her brother from disgrace. Besides, for her friend Rose's sake, she gave up the man she loved, and refused a princely fortune from another man whom she could not respect. So far as gold is concerned Stephanie was, in the end, rewarded; for the unsuccessful suitor left her his fortune. But she was rewarded in a still higher manner by the love and respect of all who knew her pure and unselfish life.

Peggy's Little Squire (S.P.C.K.) is a bright and pleasant episode of life in a country parsonage. Peggy, the heroine, is a tom-boy, who tears her dresses and dirties her face; Lena, her sister, is always clean and neat, never gets into trouble, and loves her book. Of course, the reader's sympathies are with Peggy, though happily we are not called on to dislike Lena. To these damsels enters a boy cousin of their own age, who comes to stay at the rectory, but who turns out to be so gentle and delicate that Peggy is more of the boy of the two, and the usual relations of protected and protector are reversed. Besides timidity at bodily danger, Denzil believes in ghosts and dreads them. How Peggy imparts something of her own spirit to her cousin, how they get lost in a wood, and how they get home, must be read in Miss Carew's pages. The talking is perfectly natural, and the religion rather infused through the story than obtrusively put forward. The "Little Squire" is the boy cousin; and Peggy is no timid Una, but the valiant knight of the romance, to whom the "Squire" looks up as to his guide and guardian. Of course, in the end, the tom-boy is softened without losing her spirit, and the little cousin becomes brave and manly.

Over There (S.P.C.K.) is a very different story, being melancholy and theological; but the tale is written with a certain gloomy power, and holds the reader's attention to the end. The chief characters are taken from that neglected class—the boat people on the canals; and their life is described with something of the graphic power of Dickens, who indeed has in one place touched slightly upon it. The family in the boat, with a brutal father and a drunken stepmother, makes a dismal picture, relieved only by the mutual affection of the ill-used twins, Matt and Madge. The latter, hurt by an accident, becomes a cripple, and is taken up (literally and morally) by some good Samaritans, who find her laid on the grass by the churchyard. Here the gloom of the story is brightened by the appearance of the good angel of the tale, in the shape of the rector's granddaughter, who gives poor Madge the first and only teaching she is ever to receive. The close is pathetic; and the moral of the whole is that the reader should obtain Mr. George Smith's books—*Our Canal Population* and *Canal Adventures by Moonlight*—and take an interest in a much neglected class of people.

The Guild Hymn Book, compiled by Rev. Edward N. Dew (S.P.C.K.), will be found a useful companion to *Hymns, Ancient and Modern*. There is much good poetry in this little book that may be read as well as sung.

NOTES AND NEWS.

UNIVERSAL sympathy has been expressed at the tidings—made known through the *Daily News*—of Mr. Browning's serious illness, just at the moment when his new volume is being issued to the public. His best friends are the most confident that his great physical energy will enable him to make a rapid recovery.

MR. ROBERT BUCHANAN'S new poem, to be published immediately, with illustrations, is entitled *The Outcast: a Rhyme for a Time*. It is described as a somewhat new departure in poetry, intermingling with a legendary subject a good deal of contemporary matter. The hero is that mythical person, "The Flying Dutchman," whom the poet assumes to be still existing, and who in the prelude (called "The First Christmas Eve") makes his appearance in the heart of London.

WE understand that Mrs. Pfeiffer is at work upon a drama in three acts, written expressly for the stage, which will be produced to the managers and the public at a *matinée* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre in February next.

MR. DAVID NUTT will issue next week to subscribers the fourth volume of the "Bibliothèque de Carabas," consisting of a reprint of Caxton's *Fables of Aesop* (1484), with a preface by Mr. Joseph Jacobs, in which he subjects the pedigree of the so-called Aesopic fable to the same exhaustive examination that he has already applied to the *Fables of Bidpai*. The work will be in two volumes, each of which will have a frontispiece, and the first some introductory verses also by Mr. Andrew Lang.

A LIFE of Carmen Sylva (Queen of Roumania), translated from the German by the Baroness Deichmann—containing four portraits from photographs, a view of Pelsch Castle, and a facsimile of handwriting—will be published immediately by Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co.

THE Christmas volume of the "Canterbury Poets" series will be *Humorous Poetry of the Century*, edited by Mr. Ralph Caine, of Liverpool, who is a brother of Mr. Hall Caine, the novelist. The collection will include some new pieces, among them being three of Mr. W. M. Rossetti's "Democratic Sonnets." Mr. Frederick Locker-Lampson, Mr. Arthur Locker, Mr. Austin Dobson, Mr. Coventry Patmore, Mr. G. A. Sala, Mr. Godfrey Turner, Mr. Clement Scott, Mr. Yates, Owen Meredith, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. G. R. Sims, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Sydney Grundy, and Mr. Anstey are also laid under contribution.

MESSRS. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS are about to issue a book by Mr. Carter H. Harrison, ex-mayor of Chicago, entitled *A Race with the Sun*. It will describe travels in many countries, with a number of illustrations.

A SECOND edition of Mrs. Piatt's volume of poems, *The Witch in the Glass*, is announced for early publication by Mr. Elliot Stock.

THE whole edition of Lord Chesterfield's *Letters to his Godson*, which Lord Carnarvon has just issued through the Clarendon Press, was taken up by the booksellers on the day of publication.

THE lecture session of the Cymmrodorion Society will commence on Wednesday next, December 18, when Mr. Frederick Seebohm will deliver an address on "The Celtic Open-Field System." At the annual meeting just held, Mr. Henry Owen, author of *Gerald the Welshman*, Mr. Ellis Griffith, fellow of Downing College, Cambridge, Mr. R. Arthur Roberts, of the Record Office, and Mr. Edward Owen, of the India Office, were added to the council of the society.

THE following are the lecture arrangements at the Royal Institution before Easter: Prof. A. W. Rücker, six Christmas lectures to juveniles on "Electricity"; Prof. G. J. Romanes, ten lectures on "The Post-Darwinian Period"; Mr. E. Roscoe Mullins, three lectures on "Sculpture in Relation to the Age"; Canon Ainger, three lectures on "The Three Stages of Shakspeare's Art"; Mr. Frederick Niecks, four lectures on "The Early Developments of the Forms of Instrumental Music," with musical illustrations; Prof. Flower, three lectures on "The Natural History of the Horse and of its Extinct and Existing Allies"; Lord Rayleigh, seven lectures on "Electricity and Magnetism." The usual Friday evening meetings will begin on January 24, when a discourse will be given by Prof. Dewar on "The Scientific Work of Joule"; succeeding discourses will probably be given by Sir Frederick Abel, Mr. H. B. Wheatley, Prof. J. A. Fleming, Mr. Shelford Bidwell, Prof. C. Hubert H. Parry, Mr. Francis Gotch, Prof. T. E. Thorpe, Prof. G. F. Fitzgerald, Lord Rayleigh, &c.

THE FORTHCOMING MAGAZINES.

WE are informed that the beginning of 1890 will witness the birth of a new monthly review, to be edited by Mr. Robert Buchanan. It will be eclectic in character, but among its objects will be the promotion of the editor's views on social and religious questions. Unusual prominence will be given to the discussion of current literature.

WITH the new year, the *Expositor* will begin a new series, though under the same editorship and, in the main, on the old lines. Somewhat less space will henceforth be given to connected series of articles, and more to the treatment in single papers of subjects as they arise. Among the contributions promised during 1890 are: papers on "The Authorship of the Fourth Gospel," by Bishop Lightfoot; "Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles," expository studies in the life of Christ, by Principal Oswald Dykes; popular expositions on the Old Testament, by Canon Cheyne; a series of papers on "The Teaching of the New Testament on the Future Punishment of Sin," by Prof. Joseph Agar Beet; papers by Principal Fairbairn; expositions by Dr. Godet; and Old Testament studies by the late Prof. Elmslie. It is also hoped Canon Westcott will contribute a series of papers in the latter part of the year.

THE announcements for a new volume of *Good Words*, beginning with the January number, include the following: Novels by Mr. B. L. Farjeon and Mary Linskill; "Oyster Culture," by the Marquis of Lorne, with illustrations by Princess Louise; "The Impregnable Rock of Scripture," a study of modern criticism, by Mrs. W. E. Gladstone; a series of papers on "Socialism," by Prof. Flint; a sketch of Milton's life, by Dean Plumptre; and "A Tillygloss Scandal," by Mr. J. M. Barrie.

TWENTY-SIX "Romany Songs Englished," by Mr. William E. A. Axon, of Manchester, will appear in the next part of the *Journal of Gypsy Lore*.

THE January number of *Great Thoughts* will contain the first instalment of a serial story by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, entitled "The History of a Soul, or Robert Elmsere's Contract."

THE opening chapters of a serial story by Mr. R. B. Sheridan Knowles, entitled "Glen-coonoge," will appear in the January number of the *Month*.

MESSRS. CASSELL & Co. are producing a "Little Folks Autograph Book," which will be

presented with the January number of *Little Folks* (published on December 19), commencing the new volume. A serial story by Mr. Clark Russell will be begun in the same number.

THE proprietors of *Harper's Young People* have decided to open a weekly and monthly competition for readers and subscribers beginning with the new year.

UNIVERSITY JOTTINGS.

SOME of the friends of the late Dr. Edwin Hatch desire to show their respect for his memory by raising a fund, of which a small part will be applied to the erection of a simple monument, and the remainder invested for the benefit of his family. The committee includes the bishops of Durham and Salisbury, and most of the theological professors at both Oxford and Cambridge. The hon. secretary is the Rev. Dr. W. W. Sanday, 12 Canterbury Road, Oxford. The subscriptions promised up to December 4 amount to nearly £600.

DR. J. G. GREENWOOD, acting on medical advice, has been compelled to resign the principalship of Owens College, Manchester, to which office he was appointed in 1855, five years after the foundation of the college. He has also resigned the chair of New Testament criticism, which he has held for the last few years, since the departments of Greek and ancient history were assigned to other professors.

ON the recommendation of the classical board at Cambridge, a grant of £100, from the Worts Travelling Scholars' Fund, has been made to Mr. F. G. Frazer, fellow of Trinity, in order to enable him to examine on the spot the results of recent excavation in Greece, with a view to a translation of Pausanias, with notes and excursuses, upon which he has been engaged for some time past.

THE syndicate appointed to consider the late Mr. R. S. Newall's gift of his great telescope to Cambridge have reported that the gift be accepted; and that the wish of the donor to promote the study of stellar physics be recognised by the appointment of an additional observer. It is estimated that the capital expenditure required for the removal and re-erection of the telescope, the purchase of a site, the building of a house for the observer, &c., will amount to £2225; while the annual expenses will be about £400.

IN Congregation at Cambridge, a report of the Council has been adopted, affiliating to the university twenty-seven institutions which are already affiliated to the university of Calcutta up to the B.A. standard. Most of these institutions are in Bengal; but a few are in other parts of India which as yet possess no university of their own, such as the Central Provinces and Burma; and at least three are in Ceylon. The result of affiliation is that their students are excused one year's residence at Cambridge.

MR. WALTER RALEIGH has been appointed to the King Alfred chair of modern literature and English language at University College, Liverpool, vacant by the transfer of Prof. A. C. Bradley to Glasgow.

THE Gilchrist trustees have decided to withdraw the scholarship hitherto awarded by them to youths in India and Ceylon on the results of the London matriculation, and to substitute for it two scholarships of £200 each, tenable for three years, for the study of science in Europe. One of these is allotted every year to the universities of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, in rotation; the other every third year to the universities of the Punjab and the North-West Provinces, jointly.

THE second volume of the new edition of De Quincey's Collected Writings (Edinburgh: A. & C. Black) opens with an article on "Oxford," which has not been reprinted—at least, in England—since it first appeared in *Tait's Magazine* for February, 1835. De Quincey here gives a most interesting sketch of university life in his undergraduate days (1803-8), though unfortunately he says very little about the circumstances of his own career. With his love for *minutiae*, he calculates that "a man may defray every expense incident to an Oxford life," during thirty weeks of term, for £90 15s. Regarding the obscure subject of De Quincey's flight from Worcester College, in the middle of the examination for honours, the editor (Prof. Masson) tells all that is to be told in a note. The second article in the volume—on "German Studies, and Kant in particular"—has a peculiar interest, for it reveals De Quincey as the first Oxford neo-Kantian. It has never been reprinted since 1836, not even in America.

ORIGINAL VERSE.

AMONG THE ROOTED SOULS.

If some new Dante in the shades below,
While crossing that wan wood, where the self
elain,
Changed into conscious trees, soothe their dull
pain
By sighs and plaints, as tears can never flow,
Should hear an English voice, like west wind low,
Come from the latest tree, and, letting strain
His ear against its trunk, should hear quite plain
The soul's heart tick within, though faint and
slow:
Then let him ask: "O Amy, in the land
Of the sweet light and of the sweet live air,
Did you ne'er sit beside a cripple's bed,
That you could thus destroy, at Hell's command,
All that he envied you, and choke the fair
Young flame of life, to dwell with the wan dead?"

E. LEE HAMILTON.

OBITUARY.

MRS. HAGGARD, of Bradenham, who died on December 9, at the age of sixty-nine, was the author of two volumes of verse marked by considerable merit. *Life and its Author* (second edition, 1870) is "an essay in verse," in rhyming couplets, and has many rapid and energetic passages of the didactic couplets now so seldom employed. The following, for example, is distinctly vigorous:

"Thus thou, oh Man! thy Spirit's bark may'st
guide
O'er dim Enquiry's wild and trackless tide,
While Reason's Magnet, on thy arduous way
Directs thy course, and turns thy Night to Day:
But if, unsated still thy restless mind,
Fair lands and open seas thou leave behind,
And daring track that lone mysterious main
By jealous Nature barred with icy chain,
Beware! too near those sunless billows roll
To cheerless UNBELIEF's Magnetic Pole,
Where, powerless and benumbed, thy useless
guide
In wild vibrations veers from side to side;
Despairing seeks, nor finds, a place of rest,
And madly leaps to Earth's unhallowed breast!"

Mrs. Haggard's other book, *Myra* (1857), was a tale or the first Afghan War. Some of the Oriental scenes and descriptions are spirited; but the tale was, perhaps, better suited for prose.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE *Expositor* for December concludes Dr. Jessopp's examination of those passages in the Epistles which seem to him to contain quotations from or references to primitive liturgical or other formulae. Principal Brown examines

the claim of the non-predictive theory of the design of the Apocalypse, and is severe on those critics who apply the historical key to Daniel and the Apocalypse, on the assumption that these books are not in the full sense prophetic. Prof. Cheyne expounds Ps. xxiv., assuming that it is post-Exile and of composite origin, showing that on this theory the Psalm is not less full of high spiritual meaning than on any other. Prof. Bruce continues his series of articles on Hebrews (the Tabernacle). Mr. Hoskin describes with enthusiasm the heliotype reproduction of Codex B; and, lastly, Prof. Marcus Dods surveys recent English literature on the New Testament.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

- BLOCK, J. C. Jeremia's Leben u. seine Werke. Danzig: Hinrichs. 25 M.
BRIEF, politische, Bismarck's aus den J. 1849-1889. 2. Sammlg. Berlin: Steinitz. 5 M.
BÜTNER, R. Reisen im Kongolande. Leipzig: Hinrichs. 8 M.
D'ALMEIDA, A. L. Les établissements français du golfe du Bénin. Paris: Baudoine. 6 fr.
GRIMM, H. Fünfzehn Essays. 4. Folge. Aus den letzten fünf Jahren. Gütersloh: Bertelsmann. 8 M.
KAULEK et PLANTET. Recueil de fac-simile pour servir à l'étude de la paléographie moderne (17^e et 18^e siècles). 1^{re} série: rois et reines de France. Paris: Colin. 20 fr.
LINDENSCHEIDT, L. Das römisch-germanische Central-Museum in bildlichen Darstellungen aus seinen Sammlungen. Mainz: v. Zabern. 15 M.
LOCHELL, Baron G. Dante in der deutschen Kunst. 1. Lfg. Dresden: Ehlermann. 5 M.
POIRET, Jules. Horace: étude psychologique et littéraire. Paris: Teubner. 3 fr. 50 c.
ROSENBERG, M. Der Goldschmiede Merkzeichen. Frankfurt-a.-M.: Keller. 23 M.
SCHMIDT, J. Geschichte der deutschen Litteratur von Leibniz bis auf unsere Zeit. 4. Bd. 1797-1814. Berlin: Besser. 8 M.
TALHOFFER'S Fechtbuch (Ambraser Codex) aus dem J. 1459, gerichtet u. andere Zweikämpfe darstellend. Hrg. v. G. Hergsells. 30 M. Gothaer Codex, aus dem J. 1448. 50 M. Prag: Calve.
VALLAT, G. Etudes d'histoire, de mœurs et d'art musical sur la fin du 18^e siècle et la première moitié du 19^e siècle. Paris: Quantin. 3 fr. 50 c.
VITU, Aug. Paris. Paris: Quantin. 26 fr.

THEOLOGY.

- GLORI, J. Die jüngste Kritik d. Galaterbriefes, auf ihre Berechtigung geprüft. Leipzig: Deichert. 1 M. 50 Pf.
SOMOF, M. Die Entstehung der Apostelgeschichte. Berlin: Nicolai. 1 M. 50 Pf.

HISTORY, ETC.

- DEPRESCHEN, venetianische, vom Kaiserhofe. 1. Bd. Leipzig: Freytag. 11 M.
FRICK, W. Geschichtlich-kritische Feldzüge durch das nordöstliche Westfalen. 2. M. Das mittelalterliche Westfalen. 4. M. Minden: Bruns.
LASTIG, G. Markenrecht u. Zeichenregister. Halle: Niemeyer. 6 M. 50 Pf.
MITTHEILUNGEN aus dem vaticanischen Archiv. 1. Bd. Actenstücke zur Geschichte d. Deutschen Reiches unter den Königen Rudolf I. u. Albrecht I. Mitgetheilt v. F. Kaltenbrunner. Leipzig: Freytag. 10 M.
PFLUGK-HARTUNG, J. v. Untersuchungen zur Geschichte Kaiser Konrads II. Stuttgart: Kohlhammer. 3 M.
PLEW, J. Quellenuntersuchungen zur Geschichte d. Kaisers Hadrian, nebst e. Anh. üb. das Monumentum Ancyranum u. die kaiserl. Autobiographien. Strassburg: Trübner. 5 M.
SCHIELE, G. Die "Lettres d'un officier prussien" Friedrichs d. Grossen. Strassburg: Trübner. 2 M.
VARNETRAFF, C. Johannes Schuler u. das höhere preussische Unterrichtswesen in seiner Zeit. Leipzig: Teubner. 12 M.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

- BOETTGER, O. Die Entwicklung der Pupa-Arten d. Mittelrheingebietes in Zeit u. Raum. Wiesbaden: Bergmann. 3 M.
DREHER, E. Die Physiologie der Tonkunst. Halle: Pfeffer. 2 M. 40 Pf.
HALLER, B. Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Textur d. Central-Nervensystems höherer Würmer. Wien: Holder. 10 M.
KÄRNER, W. Ueb. den Abbruch u. Abfall pflanzlicher Behaarung u. den Nachweis v. Kieselsäure in den Pflanzenhaaren. Leipzig: Engelmann. 2 M.
KUBARY, J. B. Ethnographische Beiträge zur Kenntnis d. Karolinen-Archipels. Leipzig: Winter. 27 M. 50 Pf.
MARBACH, F. Die Psychologie d. Firmianus Lactantius. Halle: Pfeffer. 1 M. 50 Pf.

- SCHAFER, J. Ueb. den feineren Bau fossiler Knochen. Leipzig: Freytag. 1 M. 50 Pf.
SCHMIDKNECHT, H. Ueb. die Abstraction. 90 Pf. Analytische u. synthetische Phantasie. 1 M. 50 Pf. Halle: Pfeffer.
SCHULZE, E. u. E. STEIGER. Untersuchungen üb. die stickstofffreien Reservestoffe der Samen v. *Lupinus luteus*. Berlin: Parey. 2 M.

PHILOLOGY, ETC.

- BARTHOLOMAE, Oh. Studien zur indogermanischen Sprachgeschichte. 1. Halle: Niemeyer. 5 M.
BELGUE, v. Macedonisch-türkische Wörtersammlung m. kulturhistorischen Erläuterungen. Schwern: Stiller. 1 M. 50 Pf.
BURNESCH, K. Klaros. Untersuchungen zum Orakelwesen d. späteren Alterthums, nebst e. Anh., das Anekdota von *χρησμοί τῶν ἑλληνικῶν θεῶν* enth. Leipzig: Teubner. 3 M. 50 Pf.
DISSERTATIONES philologicae Halenses. Vol. X. Halle: Niemeyer. 5 M.
GUTSCHMIDT, A. v. Kleine Schriften. Hrg. v. F. Rühl. 1. Bd. Schriften zur Aegyptologie u. zur Geschichte der griech. Chronographie. Leipzig: Teubner. 14 M.
MABCELLI de medicamentis liber. Editio G. Helmreich. Leipzig: Teubner. 3 M. 50 Pf.
MICHELIS, V. Zum Wechsel d. Nominalgeschlechts im Deutschen. I. Strassburg: Trübner. 1 M. 50 Pf.
POLLONIS, O. A. de bello aethiops commentarius. Rec. etc. E. Wolfen et A. Miodonski. Leipzig: Teubner. 5 M. 50 Pf.
PYTHAGORAS Chaeonensis moralis, recognovit G. N. Bernardakis. Vol. II. Leipzig: Teubner. 3 M.
URBA, O. F. Beiträge zur Geschichte der Augustinischen Textkritik. Leipzig: Freytag. 1 M. 50 Pf.
WESSLEY, O. Die Pariser Papyri d. Fundes v. El-Fajum. Leipzig: Freytag. 8 M.
ZIELINSKY, Die Märchenkomödie in Athen. St. Petersburg: Schmitzdorf. 2 M.
ZIMMERMANN, A. Kritische Untersuchungen zu den Posthomericis d. Quintus Smyrnaeus. Leipzig: Teubner. 4 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LORD MACAULAY'S UNPUBLISHED POEMS.

Leicester: Nov. 25, 1889.

I am enabled to give a few more lines from the unpublished ballad of "Bosworth Field," by Lord Macaulay, of which I made mention in the ACADEMY of October 5.

'Tis in an eve in summer time as fair as fair can be,
It is a lordly castle high up on the banks of Dee.
A lady from the castle looks, she hath looked
forth since morn,
A squire before the castle gate winds loud and
long his horn;
And up the huge portcullis flies and down the
drawbridge falls,
And fast the gallant spurs his steed within the
castle walls;
And rustling in her silk attire of satin and of
vair,
That stately dame with anxious eye sweeps
down the winding stair.
Her train fall back on either hand and leave a
passage free,
And down to earth that horseman springs and
falls on bended knee.
Now joy to Richmond's dowager, now joy to
Stanley's wife,
The right and wrong have striven to day and
God hath judged the strife!
Joy to the hundred villages on Beaufort's wealthy
plain!
Joy to the stormy mountain tops of Clifford's
bleak domain!
Joy to each honest English heart that, through
all good and ill,
In spring and fall, in sun and storm, hath loved
the red rose still!
But, lady, let me loose my helm, and rest my
lance and shield,
For I have ridden fast and far this day from
Bosworth Field."

It will be acknowledged, I think, that though some of these lines are weak enough, yet that others are by no means deficient in vigour. The poem is no doubt a very early effort; but the Macaulay manner is plainly visible especially in the squire's salutation of the noble lady to whom he bears the good tidings.

J. J. BRITTON.

THE ACCOUNTS OF THE HOSPITAL OF KING
CHARLES II. NEAR DUBLIN FOR 1702.

Oxford: Dec. 3, 1889.

The following accounts, which are transcribed from a beautifully written 12mo MS. in my possession, may be of some interest for the historian of prices. One of the entries recalls Swift's remark in the *Journal to Stella* (Jan. 16, 1711): "Ireland will never be happy till you get small coal likewise; nothing so easy, so convenient, so cheap, so pretty for lighting a fire."

C. E. DOBLE

"24th June Anno 1702.

"The Annual Charge of the Hospital of King Charles the Second neare Dublin as the same hath been Established by the Governors thereof in Respect of y^e Master Officers & Servants of the House & 400 Super Annuated & Disabled Sould^rs now maintained in y^e said Hospital, and (98) allowed 18d. each per Weeke in money abroad.

"Officers & Servants. Their Offices and Services

	Annually	£	s.	d.
Sr. Charles Fielding Master for Salary & Table...	400	0	0	0
Sr. Patrick Dun Phisition ...	50	0	0	0
John Twells Chaplaine to be Continued to him at 80l. p. ann. but no succeeding Chaplaine to have more than 50l. p. annum ...	80	0	0	0

Carried forward ...	£530	0	0
Brought forward ...	£530	0	0

Robert Curtis Auditor & Register	50	0	0
Ephraim Dawson Pay Master	50	0	0
David Ward Ayl Major	26	0	0
Thomas Grantham Reader	20	0	0
Wm. Partington Chirurgeon	50	0	0
Robt. Curtis, Junr. Mate	20	0	0
Peter Goodwin Providore	50	0	0
Tho. Baker Apothecary	20	0	0
Andrew Goodwin Butler	16	0	0
Tho. Hawkins Cooke	16	0	0
Mary Hoskins Under Cooke	8	0	0
John Hollins Fueller & Chamber Keeper	16	0	0

Carried over ...	£872	0	0
Brought forward ...	£872	0	0

Henry Burleigh Clerke of the Chappell	2	10	0
Idem For Cleaning the Chappell	1	0	0
Richd. Jameson Messenger	6	0	0
Edwd. Gent, Senr. Sculleryman	12	0	0
Edwd. Gent, Junr. His Assistant	8	0	0
James Davis } Helpers in y ^e Kitchen	5	0	0
Jone Ellis }	5	0	0
Daniel Walsh Waterman without Dyet	16	18	0
Christ. Livelock Hall Keeper	1	0	0
David Boyde } Porters without Dyet	16	18	0
John Rice }	16	18	0
Edwd. Branthwaite }	16	18	0

Carried forward ...	£980	2	0
Brought forward ...	£980	2	0

Gilbert Mines Porter without Dyet...	16	18	0
Abigail Bridges	6	10	0
Elinor Delapp	6	10	0
Eliz. Laurence	6	10	0
Jennet Tremble	6	10	0
Mary Graham	6	10	0
Eliz. McCullogh	6	10	0
Jennet Brown	6	10	0
Eliz. Ward	6	10	0
Mary Hayes	6	10	0
Mary Hughes	6	10	0
Carried over ...	£1062	0	0
Brought forward ...	£1062	0	0
Elinor Hinard	6	10	0
Susanna Williams	6	10	0
Rose Rayner	2	0	0

Lt. Walter Jones	10	0	0
Qr. Mr. Hen. Fletcher	10	0	0
Lt. Henry Higdon	10	0	0
Qr. Mr. Ja. Galbraith	10	0	0
Lt. Jno. Daniell	10	0	0
Qr. Mr. Lewis Jones	10	0	0
Thomas Elliot	2	10	0

Carried forward ...	1139	10	0
Brought forward ...	1139	10	0

Undertaker of the Slatting Worke of the Hospital	18	0	0
Andrew Rock Undertaker of y ^e Glasing Worke	24	0	0
Mrs. Frances Goodwin Undertaker of y ^e washing of the Souldiers Linnen, Sheets, Table Linnen &c. for 400 men at 15s. each	300	0	0
Incident Charges to be accounted for by Mr. Peter Goodwin	70	0	0
Mr. Francis Baker Apothecary for Medicaments for 400 Men at 2s. 6d. each p. ann.	50	0	0

Carried forward ...	£1601	10	0
Brought forward ...	£1601	10	0

Three Barbers for Shaveing the Souldiers once a Weeke at 3l. each p. ann.	9	0	0
To a Labourer for Workeing in the Garden	7	0	0
To Mr. Peter Goodwin (by Contract) for y ^e Dyet of 400 Souldiers at 3d. ½ p. diem for each man	1977	1	8
To him more for the Dyet of 24 Inferior Officers & Servants of y ^e Hospital at 4d. p. diem each	146	0	0
To him more for the Dyet of six Decayed Officers at 12l. p. ann. each	72	0	0

Carried forward ...	3812	11	8
Brought forward ...	3812	11	8

Tobacco Money for 400 Souldiers at two pence p. Weeke each	173	6	8
Additional Tobacco Money of two pence p. Weeke each to 8 Sarg ^{ts} doing duty at y ^e Hospital	3	9	4
Cloathing for 400 Sould ^r s. (viz.) Coats & Waistcoats for each man once in two Yeares at 1l. 9s. 9d. of which one halfe to be Charged as y ^e yearly Expence	0	14	10½
1 payre of Breeches	0	5	0

Carried over ...	3989	7	8
Brought over ...	3989	7	8

1 Hatt	0	3	9
1 payre of Stockens	0	1	4
2 Shirts	0	7	0
1 Cravat	0	1	8
1 payre of Shooes	0	4	0
2 Linnen Capps	0	1	6

Which for 400 Men makes yearly ...	782	10	0
For 260 Tuns of Sea-Coales at 15s. 6d. p. tun & 2s. 6d. p. tun for Carriage thereof to the Hospital	234	0	0
For 716 Barrells of Char: Coale at 2s. p. Barrell	71	12	0

Carried forward ...	5077	9	8
Brought forward ...	5077	9	8

For 260 Doz. and 6 ½ of Candles at 3s. 10d. p. doz.	49	18	9
For Oyle for 4 Lamps or Convex lights at y ^e Hospital and Cotton	4	15	0
To 98 Old and Disabled Souldiers who quitted y ^e Hospital for an Allow ^{ce} of 18d. p. Weeke each in money without Cloathes	382	4	0

	5514	7	5
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	£	s.	d.
Added Since.			
To Ensn. Julius Caesar Admitted as a Decayed Officer from y ^e 3 ^d Aug ^r 1702 by Order dated y ^e 10 th Septemb ^r foll. (viz.)			
For Cloathes	10	0	0
For Dyet	12	0	0
	22	0	0
	5536	7	5

THE "BRITISH RECORD" SOCIETY.

Putney: December 9, 1889.

I was sorry to have been unavoidably prevented from attending the initial meeting of what promises to be a most useful society, and so from being unable to support Mr. Boyd's objection to the very misleading title it has now adopted.

As I understand the prospectus, the society is to be started solely to publish Calendars and Indexes; but the title it has taken would lead anyone to believe it was to publish Records themselves. What possible objection could there have been to a true title, such as "Record Index Society"? Everyone must, of course, wish well to it, but I am sure many subscriptions will be lost by the ambiguity of the name.

Two suggestions which I meant to have made, had I been present at the meeting, were: (1) that the public generally would much prefer completed indexes for their subscriptions to instalments of numerous indexes, none of which are really of any value until the whole are completed; and (2) that it would cost very little more trouble, and save searchers much time and annoyance, if the indexes are made lexicographical instead of merely alphabetical, as hitherto issued by the Index Library and—*proh pudor!*—by the Record Office itself.

WALTER RYE.

THE WORD "CORBED" IN MARSTON.

Epping: Nov. 16, 1889.

In part ii. of Marston's "Antonio and Melinda," act ii., sc. 2, occurs the following passage:

"... The port holes
Of sheathed spirit are ne'er corb'd up,
But still stand open, ready to discharge
Their precious shot into the shrouds of heaven."

Mr. Bullen, in his admirable edition of Marston (1887), alters "corb'd" to "corbed" for the sake of the metre, and has the following note:

"Corbed (old eds. corb'd) is 'good,' as Polonius would say, but I have no suspicion as to its meaning. It would be a pity to suggest an emendation."

Perhaps "'tis true 'tis pity," but may I, with all humility, suggest an emendation? The word "corbel" or "corbeil" (French *corbeille*, Italian *corbello*) is an English dictionary word, meaning "a basket filled with earth and used in sieges." Now if the phrase "to corb up the port-holes" is not an old sea term, then, I think, Marston has coined the verb from this word "corbel" or "corbeil," and the meaning of the passage would be quite clear. Marston is fond of nautical metaphors, and I think it probable that "to corb up the port-holes" was a nautical phrase of the period.

WENTWORTH HUYSHE.

THE ETYMOLOGY OF "MEERKATZE."

Dec. 8, 1889.

The question having been raised by Prof. William Ridgway as to whether *Meerkatze* means, "not monkey in general, but the long-tailed or African monkey, the long tail suggest-

ing a resemblance to the cat," perhaps the two following facts may be of use.

In Goethe's "Faust" the tom-cat of the *Meerkatzen* family is called by Mephistopheles *der Affe*.

In a letter on "My Experiences in South Africa," published a few days ago, Lady Frederick Cavendish speaks of "the mere-cats—little burrowing creatures, something between a squirrel and a rabbit to look at." In Dutch, from which language the writer takes the word, it would, of course, be *meerkat*.

KARL BLIND.

THE FIRST RUSSIAN STUDENTS IN ENGLAND.

Oxford: Dec. 9, 1889.

May I be allowed to state that in a forthcoming little book by me—*Russia*, in the series of the "Story of the Nations"—some further details will be found concerning the Russian students mentioned by my friend, Prof. Alexandrenko?

W. R. MORFILL

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

SUNDAY, Dec. 15, 4 p.m. South Place Institute: "National Life and Thought in Greece," by Mr. J. T. Bent.

MONDAY, Dec. 16, 5 p.m. London Institution: "Lustre Decoration in Ceramic Art," by Mr. H. Wallis. 8 p.m. Society of Arts: "Cantor Lecture, 'Modern Developments of Bread-making,' IV., by Mr. William Jago.

8 p.m. Aristotelian Symposium: "Is there Evidence of Design in Nature?" by Mr. S. Alexander, Dr. Glidea, Miss Naden, and Prof. Romanes. TUESDAY, Dec. 17, 2.30 p.m. British Museum: "The Religion of Babylonia, IV., Mazdeism," by Mr. G. Bérin.

7.45 p.m. Statistical: "Accumulations of Capital in the United Kingdom in 1875-85," by Mr. R. Giffen.

8 p.m. Civil Engineers: Discussion: "The Triple Expansion Engines at Owens College, Manchester," by Prof. Osborne Reynolds.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 18, 8 p.m. Gymnasium: "The Celtic Open-Field System," by Mr. F. Seebohm.

8 p.m. Society of Arts: "London Sewage," by Sir Robert Rawlinson.

8 p.m. Geological: "The Occurrence of the Genus *Girvanella*, and Oolitic Structure," by Mr. E. Wevered. "The Relation of the Westleton Beds or Pebbly Sands of Suffolk to those of Norfolk and their Extension Inland," and "The Period of the final Elevation and Denudation of the Weald and of the Thames Valley," II., by Prof. Joseph Prestwich.

THURSDAY, Dec. 19, 6 p.m. London Institution: "The Optical Properties of Gems and Precious Stones," by Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson.

8 p.m. Linnean: "Intensive Segregation and Divergent Evolution in Land Mollusca of Oahu," by the Rev. John T. Gulick; "Dictyopteris, with Remarks on the Systematic Position of the Dictyotaceae," by Mr. T. Johnson.

8 p.m. Physical: "Frangulin," by Prof. Thorpe and Mr. H. H. Robinson.

8.30 p.m. Historical: "Teaching History in Schools and the Results obtained," by Dr. G. O. Williamson.

FRIDAY, Dec. 20, 8 p.m. Philological: "Consonant-Laws in Latin," by Mr. E. B. Wharton.

SCIENCE.

PHILOLOGICAL BOOKS.

MR. W. R. MORFILL'S *Grammar of the Russian Language* (Oxford: Clarendon Press) differs from all other Russian Grammars known to us in the extensive use which it makes of comparative philology. For an absolute beginner, perhaps a Grammar written on a purely empirical method might be preferable; but the student who has already a slight knowledge of Russian will find Mr. Morfill's book extremely useful for enabling him to master the many grammatical anomalies of the language, which are not easily retained in the memory without some knowledge of the historical facts in which they find their explanation. It is to be regretted that the book is so short; the 80 small pages of which the Grammar (apart from the Reading Lessons) consists really do not afford space enough for the adequate discussion of the phenomena of a language so complex in its

structure as Russian. The "aspects" of the verb, for instance, might well occupy many times the amount of space which Mr. Morfill devotes to them, though the manner in which this difficult subject is treated is decidedly preferable to that found in ordinary Grammars. In dealing with the uses of the prepositions, Mr. Morfill gives the most typical English equivalent, and appends a series of examples, with translations, illustrating the applications which require a different rendering. The student who commits these examples to memory will have acquired a considerable amount of insight into Russian idiom. In the Accidence Mr. Morfill refers to the Syntax for a fuller explanation of the uses of the conjunctions; but through some oversight the promise is not fulfilled. The Reading Lessons seem to be well chosen, but some of them are rather difficult for self-teaching students without the aid of notes. One of them is an amusing scene from Gogol's "Revizor." The indication of the *dramatis personae* in this scene, by the way, has been copied a little too faithfully from the original book; the reader of the extract cannot be expected to know who "the same persons" are. The volume is beautifully printed.

A *Chinese Manual*, comprising a Condensed Grammar with Idiomatic Phrases and Dialogues. By R. K. Douglas. (W. H. Allen.) This Manual marks a real advance upon previous productions of the same kind, and is well calculated to impart to students sound notions of the language. As becomes a Sinologist of the new school, the author has introduced several improvements in his mode of teaching. The spelling, which is an adaptation of Wade's system to the Mandarin, and the mode of writing together the sounds united by sense and rhythm, are both commendable. Due attention has been paid to the auxiliary verbs and particles which play the part of enclitics. The dialogues and numerous examples throughout the Manual have been mostly taken from native works written for the instruction of the Japanese in the Chinese language, and are therefore exempt from any European idiosyncrasies. Unhappily, this advantage has not been gained without inconvenience to the student. The sixty dialogues are not arranged in order of subjects, so that in any special case no reference can be made to the Manual. And what makes the matter still worse is that there is no index of contents nor any table whatever.

Grammar and Reading-Book of the Panjabi Language. By the Rev. Wm. St. Clair Tisdall. (Tribner's Simplified Grammar Series.) This little handbook is intended to be useful only to those who are previously acquainted with Urdu; and, therefore, the grammatical remarks bear simply on the differences between Panjabi and the latter language. High Hindi (or Urdu) is the literary, while Panjabi is the vernacular, language of the country. A special appendix to the grammatical section deals with the peculiarities of the Lahinda dialect. Long extracts in the native character (the Gurmukhi) are given from the Sermon on the Mount, the Life of Gurū Nānak, and the Yanam Sākhī; and the work concludes with a vocabulary of about 600 words, including all those quoted in the extracts. There are no dialogues, as usual in works written for the purpose of teaching a spoken language. This little book is printed at Hertford, with all the care and neatness we are accustomed to find in the books which come from the Austin Press.

Anglicised Colloquial Burmese; or, How to Speak the Language in Three Months. By Lieut. F. A. L. Davidson. (W. H. Allen.) We have great doubts whether the use of this small Manual will ever justify its sub-title.

The grammatical skeleton and the scanty instances given therein are altogether insufficient for the purpose. The useful sentences alone may to a certain extent answer their purpose. Let us hope that we have here the forerunner of a more complete work by the same author.

Oceania: Linguistic and Anthropological. By D. Macdonald. (Sampson Low.) The perusal of a book like this makes one wish that missionaries to savage or barbarous tribes knew no Hebrew. Mr. Macdonald creates a family of speech which he calls Oceanic, and which consists of such diverse elements as Malayo-Polynesian and Papuan; and he then proceeds to connect it with the Semitic languages. As might have been expected, there are many valuable facts scattered here and there in the book for which the comparative philologist is grateful; but he would be much more grateful if they were not mixed up with comparisons with Hebrew and other Semitic tongues, and a consequent defiance of all the laws of linguistic science. When will it be understood that to speculate on the relationships of language without having mastered the principles and results of comparative philology is as great an impertinence as to speculate on the origin of the nebulae without having first acquired a knowledge of astronomy, and is likely to end as disastrously? Mr. Macdonald has much to tell us about the Oceanic languages which we should be glad to know; when, instead of doing this, he ventures upon the domain of the glottologist, he adds but one book more to the many that have already passed into the limbo of forgotten paradoxes.

SOME BOTANICAL BOOKS.

Diseases of Plants. By H. Marshall Ward. (S.P.C.K.) The title of this book is a little misleading; the diseases of which it treats being limited to a single class—those caused by parasitic fungi, and to a small number even of those. So far as it goes, it contains an excellent and accurate account, if somewhat popular, of the potato disease, the smut and rust of cereal crops, the ergot of rye, the hop-disease, bladder-plum, and some others. The book can be cordially recommended to any one desirous of acquainting himself with the history and the nature of these diseases. We regret that we cannot praise the illustrations, many of which are diagrams rather than representations of what is actually seen under the microscope.

Handbook of the Bromeliaceae. By J. G. Baker. (Bell.) Although this work—one of a series of several similar ones by the same author—is mainly intended for the gardener and the systematic botanist, there are several features of great interest in this natural order of plants to which it may be permitted to call attention. It comprises between 800 and 900 known species, entirely confined to tropical and sub-tropical America, and includes plants of such widely different appearance and habit as the pine-apple and the *Tillandsia usneoides*, or "old man's beard," so familiar to travellers in Central America. The large field that still remains unworked in the description of new plants is illustrated by the fact that the number of species here described is more than double the late Mr. George Bentham's estimate when he compiled the *Genera Plantarum*, in 1883, a very large proportion of the new species having been described by Mr. Baker himself. Although every extensive collection of stove-plants contains specimens of "Bromeliads," there are doubtless still a large number of species which might be profitably introduced into cultivation.

Handbook of Practical Botany. By Strasburger and Hillhouse. Second Edition. (Sonnenschein.) Having already (ACADEMY, April 2, 1887)

noticed the first English edition of this work we have only to call attention to the publication of the second. A small portion of the book has been re-written, and several important alterations and additions made, in accordance with the advance of science even in the course of two years. As many as thirty-three new illustrations are also added; but the hand of the editor has been obviously and painfully held back by the vicious habit of stereotyping, against which authors and publishers of scientific works ought resolutely to set themselves. This second edition would have been much more valuable had it been set up afresh from beginning to end, which we hope may be the case with the third.

THE most recently published parts (23 and 24) of the "Handbook of Botany," included in that vast undertaking, the *Encyclopædie der Wissenschaften* (Breslau: Treves), contain the first portion of an elaborate Treatise on Fungi by Prof. W. Zopf. The name of the author is itself a sufficient guarantee of the thorough and masterly treatment of the subject. It promises, in fact, to be an exhaustive account of the present state of our knowledge of this most interesting, but most difficult and perplexing, class of vegetable organisms.

THE NEXT ORIENTAL CONGRESS.

As hinted in the ACADEMY at the time, considerable dissatisfaction was expressed by many of the members of the International Congress of Orientalists at the general character and the results of the last meeting at Stockholm and Christiania. In particular, the composition of the committee entrusted with the task of making arrangements for the next meeting has failed to meet with approval. Concerning this, it is enough to state that England, France, Russia, and Italy—as well as smaller countries which have interests in the East—are all alike unrepresented. Moreover, it is feared—from the known disposition of the most active member of this committee—that some place *plutôt orientale qu'orientaliste* may be chosen for the next meeting.

In view of these circumstances, some of the oldest frequenters of the Congress have felt it their duty to issue an appeal to their colleagues, in which they recall the scientific objects which these international gatherings were founded to promote, and ask for a general expression of opinion in favour of holding the next Congress in Paris or London, where serious work could be done undisturbed by the distraction of perpetual festivities. The original promoters of this appeal were Dr. G. W. Leitner, director of the Oriental Institute and Museum at Woking; Prof. A. H. Sayce; and MM. Maspero and Oppert, of the French Institut. They have already received the support of about ninety names, including the following:

In England—Prof. R. K. Douglas, Augustus W. Franks, Dr. R. Hoerning, T. G. Pinches, and E. R. Rapon, of the British Museum; Dr. R. Rost, Sir Alfred Lyall, and Sir George Birdwood, of the India Office; Sir Lepel Griffin, T. H. Thornton, Dr. H. W. Bellew, Dr. Th. Duka, J. S. Hewitt, Herbert Baynes, H. W. Freeland, H. Priestley, and W. Irvine, among Anglo-Indians; Prof. Legge and Dr. Neubauer, from Oxford; Dr. Ginsburg, C. J. Ball, Charles H. H. Wright, H. G. Tomkins, Edmund Maclure, and E. W. Bullinger, for theology; Dr. C. Wells, J. H. Blumhardt, H. A. Salmoné, and T. Witton Davies, as representing the teachers of oriental languages; and also H. H. Howorth, Hyde Clarke, Major C. M. Watson, Francis W. Percival, Dr. J. S. Phéné, George Roy Badenoch, &c., &c.

In France—E. Madier de Montjau and J. Le Vallois, representing the original founders of the Congress; Hartwig Derenbourg, Julien Vinson,

Henri Cordier, and O. Houdas, professors at the Ecole des Langues Orientales Vivantes; Prof. James Darmesteter, of the Collège de France; E. Amelineau, of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes; Emile Guimet, of the Musée Guimet; the Marquis de Croisier, on behalf of the Société Académique Indo-Chinoise; Paul Ory, French Resident in Annam; and also G. M. Ollivier Beauregard, Ed. Drouin, G. Deveria, Henry Coutagne, Count C. de Monthlanc, Xavier Gaultier de Claubry, Count Dilhan, Paul Boell, Baron Textor de Ravisy, Julien Duchateau, Félix Robiou, Eugène Gibert, Baron J. de Baye, and Léon Feer.

In Germany—Prof. F. Kielhorn, of Göttingen; Prof. Fr. Kaulen, of Bonn; and E. Glaser, of Munich.

In Holland and Belgium—Prof. G. Schlegel, of Leyden; Prof. C. de Harlez, of Louvain; Prof. Ch. Michel, of Ghent; Father J. van den Gheyn; M. G. L. van Loghern; and F. J. Meyer.

In Russia—Profs. D. Chwolson and A. Tsagarrelli, of St. Petersburg; and J. Karlowitz, of Warsaw.

In Scandinavia—Prof. V. Fausbüll, Capt. A. d'Irgens-Bergh, J. J. Jensen, and Capt. F. Adersen, of Copenhagen; and C. W. Skarstedt, of Lund.

In Switzerland—Prof. E. Montet and Ant. J. Baumgartner, of Geneva.

In Portugal—Prof. G. de Vasconcellos Abreu, of Lisbon.

In Roumania—Prof. B. P. Hasden.

We may add that the Royal Asiatic Society has fixed Monday next, December 16, at 4 p.m., for receiving the report of its delegates to the last Congress; and that the question of the place and date of the next Congress will then be brought under consideration. In view of this, Mr. R. N. Cust—who has been present at seven out of the eight Congresses already held—has issued a circular containing sentiments very similar to those in the appeal above mentioned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE RELIGION OF THE SEMITES."

Oxford: December 9, 1889.

There can be but one opinion among students as to the high interest and importance of Prof. Robertson Smith's new volume. His extensive learning, vivified by a philosophic spirit, and directed by the comparative method, has enabled him not only to collect facts new and old, but to place them in a new light. It must therefore be peculiarly difficult to review his book; in fact, it may be doubted whether anyone can do it properly but the author himself, who best knows the weak points in his argument, and must be well aware that all is not so plain as it may seem to the reader.

He has been hurt by some passages in the ACADEMY's review, and perhaps not without good reason; but may one, who is a friend alike of the author and of his reviewer, suggest that the author himself has now and then given some cause for misjudgment? The reviewer may well think that Prof. Robertson Smith has not shown as much interest in Assyriology as the subject demanded; and the refusal of the latter to attend to the statements of this or that Assyriologist, until he and his colleagues are substantially agreed, comes perhaps with a bad grace from an Old Testament critic.

I ask leave now to speak a word of peace upon one of the points which, as Prof. Robertson Smith thinks, his reviewer has handled inadequately—viz., the explanation given in *The Religion of the Semites* of the Old Testament Ashéra. It is true that the reviewer's treatment of this explanation (viz., that the Ashéra was the sacred tree or pole which was "planted" be-

side the altar of any god or goddess) is inadequate. But did not Prof. Robertson Smith offer some provocation to one who held the opposite view (that there was a Canaanitish goddess called Ashéra, and that objects bearing the same name were her symbols) by the dogmatic declaration that it "is not tenable" (p. 172)? Why is it not tenable? Partly because some of the Old Testament passages which have to many writers seemed to confirm the "untenable" view belong, according to Wellhausen, to a late exilic writer, to whom the pre-exilic popular religion was imperfectly known, while others are reconcilable with Prof. Smith's theory; and partly because of Phœnician epigraphic evidence, which we are now beginning to understand. The most important part of Prof. Robertson Smith's argument is that which refers to the latter evidence; but, as it seems to me, we wanted an excursus on this subject. M. Renan is generally thought to be a master of Phœnician epigraphy, but he certainly does not (or, at least, very lately did not) take the same view as the Cambridge professor (see *Histoire d'Israël*, i. 229, 230). Baethgen, too, in his *Beiträge zur semit. Religionsgeschichte*, makes no reference to any Phœnician evidence as proving the view which he (like Stade and Wellhausen) holds, that the Ashéra was a wooden pole set up beside the altar of Baal or Yahvé. The "untenable" view must be plausible, or it would not have received the support of so many Old Testament critics, as well as Assyriologists. Baethgen rejects the idea of a god Asher; but it is, at any rate, difficult to interpret "Gad" as a heathen divine name (which, I should think, Prof. Smith does), and not so to interpret Asher. Now remember (1) that—as M. Renan states—a symbol which is probably that of Astarte (Ashérah) is "found at every step in the territory of the ancient tribe of Asher"; and (2) that the Assyriologists have made it (if I may say so without having read G. Hoffmann) reasonably certain that, not merely before the exile, but before the Exodus, there was a Canaanitish goddess Asratu; and what reason is there for the peremptory statement on p. 172 of the Lectures? Those who accept Wellhausen's criticism of the historical books are surely not bound to go with him in his view of Ashéra. Even an exilic editor may have heard that Asherah was the name of a goddess. That earlier writers used Asherim or Ashéroth for the symbols of the goddess would, of course, be no stranger than the similar use of Baalim and Ashtaroth.

It is not everyone who is so intimately acquainted with the latest German essays and dissertations as Prof. Robertson Smith. Had Prof. G. Hoffmann's essay appeared in a *Zeitschrift*, Prof. Sayce would no doubt have read it. I, at least, am quite ready to be converted by it, if necessary. But the explanation of Ashérah, quoted from it by Prof. Smith (the "mark" of the presence of the god), seems difficult. I can no more believe this at present than I can, with Profs. Sayce and Friedrich Delitzsch, that Ashéra is connected with Ass. *esritu*, "a holy place, temple." The latter word may, indeed—as Schrader thinks—be connected with Ass. *asru*, "a place," and so with *אשר*, Ass. *ithru*, "a mark," "a footprint." A temple was, in fact, the record of a theophany, a visible sign that the place was frequented by a god (comp. *Lectures*, p. 190). But I do not see that a sacred tree could naturally be called a "mark" of divine presence. And as to Asratu, why should anyone cast about for a better explanation of it than that of Prof. Schrader, which has recently been adopted by Prof. Franz Delitzsch in the fourth edition of his *Isaiah*? Surely this whole question is still very uncertain. How, for instance, do we know that there are not two *asherahs*, one

meaning the sacred pole, and the other being the title of a goddess? Mr. G. W. Collins's very full discussion of "Ashtoreth and the Ashera" (*Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology*, June 4, 1889) is not mentioned by Prof. Smith. Doubtless, it appeared too late for this. But the excursus on pp. 437, 438 enables us to see how he would meet the unhappy theory proposed.

T. K. CHEYNE.

THE GREEK MSS. IN THE WARSAW TOWN LIBRARY.

Venice: Nov. 26, 1889.

Prof. Zacher, of Breslau, kindly sent me a short while ago a Catalogue, made by himself and seven colleagues, of the Greek MSS. in the town library at Warsaw. So useful a work cannot but meet the warmest welcome from all classical philologists. The undertaking was suggested, and to some extent carried on, by the lamented Studemund. When he became incapacitated by illness, the direction fell to Prof. Zacher.

The collection consists of forty-two MSS., the greater part of which are derived from the bequest of Thomas Retdiger, a noble of Warsaw, who, we are told, travelled in Italy between 1567 and 1569. His books came to the city in 1646. With these are joined five more Greek MSS. which formerly belonged to the church of St. Mary Magdalen. In an appendix are added three MSS., the property of Friedrichsgymnasium—exactly fifty in all. The university of Warsaw further possesses a library of its own, of which, it is satisfactory to hear, a Catalogue is in course of preparation.

The value of the city library cannot be said to be very great, either from a literary or a palaeographical point of view; with one exception, there is no MS. earlier than the fourteenth century. Nevertheless the collection is not without its importance; and in any new work on the *Iliad*, the Warsaw copies are not likely to be forgotten. The work of description has been done with more than laudable diligence and, apparently, accuracy; and every gratitude is due to the laborious committee of compilers. It may, perhaps, be questioned whether the length of the descriptions is not excessive. The tendency of modern catalogue making, is, and rightly, towards the form of M. Omont's exemplary "Inventaires Sommaires," or the type proposed and exemplified by Mr. Maunde Thompson in the *Classical Review*. Prof. Zacher has, if it may be said without offence, made something of a return in the direction of Lambecius. The complaint of irrelevant detail has been raised (by M. Desrousseaux) against the splendid Vatican Catalogue at present in process of publication; but the Signori Stevenson are terse compared to the Warsaw philologists. But this is a consideration that does not diminish the usefulness, if it somewhat affects the handiness, of so excellent a work as this Catalogue, which, it should be noticed, is published at the expense of the municipality of Warsaw.

T. W. ALLEN.

SCIENCE NOTES.

DR. J. FELIX and Dr. H. LENK, both of the University of Leipzig, have just issued the first part of an important work, entitled *Beiträge zur Geologie und Paläontologie der Republik Mexico*. Under this title it is proposed to publish an exhaustive description of Mexico, based on the results of the authors' scientific expedition in the years 1887 and 1888. The part just published deals with the volcanoes of Central Mexico, and with the geological structure of the valley of Anahuac.

The Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, 2nd Series, vol. iv., part i. Containing papers read at the January, February, and March Meetings, 1889, pp. 192, with eleven plates. (London: Trübner.) We have to announce the appearance of a new part of the work done by this indefatigable society, which shows no falling-off in the activity of its members. We find here the completion of Mr. J. D. Ogilby's monograph on the Australian fishes of the group of Palae-ichthyes and its allies, with descriptions of forty-five species of dog-fishes and sharks. In conchology there are notes on the Linnean *Meurex cornus* and *Cypraea venusta*; and in ornithology a note on the breeding of the Gouldian finches, *Poephila mirabilis*. In entomology Mr. Olliff contributes the description of a fine large new moth of the genus *Phyllodes*; Mr. Miskin a notice upon *Danaus chrysippus* and its allies; Mr. Skuse a memoir on the two remarkable little Dipterous flies (*Lestophonus*), parasitic on the terrible fluted scale insect (*Icerya*), and on *Monophlebus Crawfordi*; and another upon a new genus of Muscidae, containing two species which are parasitic upon Australian frogs, with figures of the transformations. Mr. Blackburn gives an extended monograph of the beetles of the Australian genus *Heteronyx*, and Mr. Ianson describes two new Australian Cetonidae. In botany there is a long memoir on the vegetation of Malaysia by the Rev. J. E. T. Woods, with nine plates; and notes on the geographical distribution of some New South Wales plants by Mr. Maiden. The part concludes with a practical paper on the proposals of a South Australian committee for the better protection of the native fauna and flora, by Mr. Trebeck.

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

At a meeting of persons interested in the proposed new Oriental Translation Fund, held at the Royal Asiatic Society's rooms on December 4, the following resolution was unanimously carried:

"That a committee, consisting of H. H. Howorth, Prof. T. W. Rhys-Davids, and F. F. Arbuthnot (with power to add to their number), be appointed to endeavour to obtain, in the first instance, more subscribers to the proposed society, to consider the name and title to be given to the same, and to prepare a list of texts and translations which might be undertaken, should the society be eventually started."

Those who may be willing to subscribe £1 a year to the proposed society are requested to send their names to F. F. Arbuthnot, 18 Park Lane, Piccadilly.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 21.)

DR. SANDYS in the chair.—Prof. H. Sidgwick read some notes on "Aristotle's Classification of Politics." *Origin*.—The close resemblances between this classification and that given in the *Politics* justify the inferences (1) that Aristotle's scheme is substantially derived from Plato; (2) that the *Politics* is separated by an important interval of time from the earlier *Republic*, in which the classification is very different. *Development*.—We have Aristotle's classification in its first stage in *Nic. Eth.*, viii. ch. x, where the affinity to Plato's scheme is most marked, the "order of merit" of the politics being the same in both: kingdom, aristocracy, constitutional government, democracy, oligarchy, tyranny. The classification reappears in *Politics*, iii. ch. vii, but the order of merit is not expressly stated; and with good reason, for it soon appears that Aristotle does not hold the government of one or of few to be essentially superior to that of the many. On the contrary, it is decided (ch. xi.) that the many may be collectively wiser than the few, and so col-

lectively better qualified for the highest deliberative or judicial work, though not individually for executive magistracies. Accordingly, when the distribution of rule and subjection in Aristotle's ideal state comes to be discussed (iv. ch. xiv.), it is decided that all the citizens are to share in government when they have come to a sufficiently advanced age. The meaning of "aristocracy" is therefore altered in the course of the discussion. Having been originally defined as a "government of a few in the interest of all," it ultimately comes to mean a constitution in which supreme rule is in the hands of a carefully trained *παῖδες*. In short, Aristotle's ideal state—though called by him an *ἀριστοκρατία*—corresponds rather to his first conception of *πολιτεία* (used as species) than to his first conception of *ἀριστοκρατία*. Hence, when the classification is referred to again in vi. 2, we find that Aristotle does not say or imply anything as to the fewness of the rulers in an aristocracy. We find, also, that the conception of *πολιτεία* ("constitutional government") has been modified to suit the modification in the conception of aristocracy. It is now conceived as a kind of fusion of oligarchy and democracy. *Double Use of πολιτεία*.—It is a probable conjecture that the distinction drawn by Aristotle between the wider (generic) and the narrower use of this term was only found in a vague form in ordinary discourse. And the conjecture is confirmed by an intermediate use into which Aristotle himself sometimes slides. Thus, in iii. ch. xv. 11, *πολιτεία* seems to exclude monarchy, but not moderate oligarchy; and in vi. (iv.) ch. iv., 30, the extreme type of democracy—but only the extreme type—is said to be "not a *πολιτεία*," as being lawless, which implies that extreme oligarchy—and, of course, tyranny—might be similarly excluded from the term, while milder oligarchies and democracies were included. Prof. Sidgwick further drew attention to the difficulty of interpreting Aristotle's distinction between the mildest and the next mildest species of oligarchy, in respect of the constitution of the deliberative body as given in vi. ch. xiv., 8; and suggested that *αἰετοί* in the first clause of this passage must be corrupt.

CLIFTON SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.—(Saturday, November 23.)

MISS FLORENCE HERRAPATH in the chair.—In connexion with the play of "The Alchemist," which was more immediately before the society, Prof. O. H. Herford sent a paper on Ben Jonson's masque of "Mercury vindicated from the Alchemists at Court," which is a production of Jonson's golden period as a writer of masques, which corresponds, on the whole, with his golden period as a writer of drama proper; beginning, however, and also ending, somewhat later—say from the masque of "Blackness" (1606) to the most splendid and finished, though not quite the most dramatic, of all, "The Golden Age restored" (1616). Its exact date is not known; but assuming the order of the first folio to be, as in all dated instances it is, chronological, it falls between 1610 and 1615, and somewhat nearer the earlier than the later date. It was therefore written after, but probably not long after, the great comedy of "The Alchemist," as we might expect from their parallelism of subject. We have here then a capital opportunity of studying Jonson's method of treating a subject for the purposes of masque and of drama respectively, the proximity of date not permitting the critical doubt to arise whether differences apparently due to differences of plan are not the result of different phases of Jonson's development. It is fortunate, also, that this correspondence occurs at a time when Jonson wrote both masque and drama not only with the utmost power, but also with the clearest sense of, and the firmest insistence upon, their essential difference. Other correspondences—such as that between "The Staple of News" (1625), and the "News from the New World" (1620)—belong to a time when the masque in Jonson's hands had degenerated into a combination of bastard comedy with chill and unreal allegory—a change towards greater realism, which was, doubtless, prompted as much by court taste as by the decay of Jonson's imaginative powers, but which foreshadowed, if it did not involve, the disappearance of the masque as an independent

genus. This spiritual and vigorous little masque, which should be studied in detail, belongs evidently to the most dramatic variety—that known as *Triumphs*—in which the outward splendour, which was essential to the *denouement*, was associated with the victory or “vindication” of the hero, whom the Antimasque had, on the other hand, persecuted and perplexed. But the character of the “Vindication” is very unlike that by which, in “*The Alchemist*,” nature and natural forces may be said, in like manner, to triumph, while art is humiliated. We are out of the region of the ordinary forces of the world; and the alchemists succumb not to any fear of the constable or of the counter, but before the glorious vision of the real makes of men, the radiance of which floods the gloomy recesses of their cavernous workshop, and startles them away like the creatures of darkness before the light. The hero, too, belongs wholly to this ideal region. In “*The Alchemist*” already we have a hint of the personification of Mercury. He is called a “fugitive”; and, apart from the fact that Mercury was, in the alchemist creed, one of the elements of all metals, the personification of this volatile and lively metal was particularly obvious. It was at least a felicitous stroke, which moreover enabled Jonson to put into his mouth all the satire upon alchemy of which in the comedy he makes Surly the medium. In the two cases respectively Jonson has, with fine judgment, chosen the object of alchemic pursuit. In the comedy this is pre-eminently the conversion of metals into gold—a powerful dramatic motive wherever a society exists in which it may be supposed credible. The attempt to make men would have been too far beyond credibility for such a purpose. But in the fantastic atmosphere of the masque it is entirely in place, and far more capable than the other of giving the here appropriate sensation of the marvellous; while on the other hand it leads naturally up to the splendid climax—the appearance of Prometheus and Nature, the true creators of man. The execution of this last portion is not, poetically, on a level with the conception, or with the execution of the *finale* of other masques, such as the “*Golden Age*”; and Jonson accordingly hardly belongs to the series of poets who have struck abiding poetry from the imperishable legend of Prometheus—a series in which, not to speak of Aeschylus and Shelley, for whom Prometheus is a hero of tragedy, two poets alone have achieved great things from a standpoint and in a manner of art resembling Jonson’s own: Calderon in his “*La Estatu de Prometeo*” and Goethe in his splendid, incomplete, and far too little known “*Pandora*.”—Mr. L. M. Griffiths read a paper entitled “*Some Literary Points in Ben Jonson’s Life*.” The first recorded literary notice of Jonson is on December 3, 1597, when Henslowe lent him 20s. on a play, the outline of the plot of which he had supplied, and which he was to write either for the Lord Admiral’s company or for the Earl of Pembroke’s men, or for both the companies together. In 1598, besides the joint work with Porter and Othello, he wrote “*Every Man in his Humour*.” In the same year he found his literary attainments serve him well; for by “benefit of clergy” he escaped hanging for having killed Gabriel Spencer, one of Henslowe’s actors, and after being branded on the hand was sent for a short term to prison. This brought upon him the jeers and ridicule of his quick-witted contemporaries, whose familiarity with the insides of Elizabethan prisons arose mostly from the more aristocratic offence of not paying their debts, and who, of course, would despise Jonson for being concerned in such a vulgar proceeding as a murderous quarrel. Jonson says:

“Three years
They did provoke me with their petulant styles
On every stage.”

And in 1601, Ben, stung by these assaults, brought out his “*Poetaster*,” in which Marston is satirised as Crispinus and Dekker as Demetrius. In it Jonson not only offended the playwrights attacked, but many classes of people, to whom he afterwards offered some reparation in an “*Apologetical Dialogue*.” But of the main purpose of the play he withdrew nothing. Dekker undertook to retaliate, and in the same year brought out for the Chamberlain’s servants at the Globe his

“*Satiro-mastix*.” This literary quarrel is of special interest, as it took place when Shakspeare was at the height of power; and it involves the question as to what extent, if any, he entered into the fashion of referring to contemporary writers in plays. But, clearly, Jonson entered designedly upon the task of reforming certain abuses—a mission in which Shakspeare took little or no part. A writer with the power which Jonson displayed in “*The Alchemist*,” is needed to appeal to the public in a similar way to sweep away all the modern charlatans who are the nineteenth-century counterparts of Subtle and Face. The quarrel between Jonson and Marston was soon over; for in 1604 Marston dedicated “*The Malcontent*” to Ben, and in the following year, when Chapman and Marston were in prison for writing “*Eastward Ho!*” Jonson voluntarily joined them because he had aided in its production.

SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.—(Friday, November 29.)

Mrs. HENRY SIDGWICK gave some account of experiments in thought-transference with hypnotised persons, made by herself and Mr. G. A. Smith, of which a fuller description will appear in the next part of the *Proceedings* of the society. The experiments were conducted with four different subjects as percipients; and they chiefly had to do with the transference of numbers of two digits which Mr. Smith gazed at while the subject guessed. The number of trials made with agent and percipient in the same room was 644, of which 117 were complete successes, and in 14 the right digits were guessed in reversed order, the most probable number of successes by chance alone would be about 8. These numbers include bad and good days alike, but on some days there was no success at all. On one day, in twelve trials, there were nine successes. On this day no one who knew the number spoke. During the greater part of the time the percipient had a newspaper over his head and face, and the agent sat several feet away from him. No contact was allowed. It seemed clear that there had been no transference of ideas through the senses.

FINE ART.

EGYPT EXPLORATION FUND.

THE third ordinary general meeting of the Egypt Exploration Fund since its incorporation as a society (its seventh since the foundation of the Fund in 1883) was held on Friday, November 29, in the large room of the Zoological Society, 3 Hanover Square, the president, Sir John Fowler, in the chair. There were present Prof. Reginald Stuart Poole, vice-president of the Fund; H. A. Grueber, hon. treasurer; Hellier Gosselin, secretary; T. H. Baylis, Q.C., Prof. Hayter Lewis, the Rev. W. MacGregor, Mrs. Tirard, Miss H. M. Adair, Miss A. E. F. Barlow, Miss Herbert, Mr. J. Hilton, Mr. W. Fowler, Mr. A. S. Murray, &c. The proceedings were opened by the chairman, who called upon the secretary to read the list of members of committee who were retiring in rotation, and the list of members recommended for re-election. Mr. F. L. Griffiths was recommended for election as a new member of committee. The following resolution, proposed by Sir John Fowler, and seconded by Prof. Hayter Lewis, was then carried: “That J. Hilton, Esq., and the Rev. R. Milburn Blakiston be re-appointed as hon. auditors.” Mr. Grueber, hon. treasurer, then read his financial report for the year 1888-9, and presented the balance-sheet, stating that it showed a much more prosperous state of things than he had anticipated last April. The total expenditure for the year 1888-9 had been £3009 6s. 3d., which was made up of the following items: (1) For the completion of M. Naville’s excavations on the site of Bubastis and the City of Onias, and for the remaining part of the expenses connected with the transport to Alexandria and thence to England, America, and Geneva, of the objects found, £1466 5s. 5d.;

(2) to Mr. F. L. Griffiths, being the balance of the English Students’ Fund, £73 8s. 3d.; and to Dr. Farley Goddard, the American student, £140; (3) for publications—viz., printing, illustrating, binding, and packing *Tanis II.*, *Naukratis II.*, *Goshen*, *Pithom*, *Nebesheh*, and *Defenneh*, and the *Sign Papyrus*, £1001 4s. 4d.; and (4) for rent of office and secretarial expenses, printing, stationery, postage, &c., £328 10s. 3d. The total receipts for the corresponding period were £2997 11s. 8d., the chief items being: (1) subscriptions £2495 17s. 5d., which might be subdivided into European subscriptions, £995 17s. 5d., and American subscriptions, £1500 (including £100 for the American Student Fund); (2) special Transport Fund £311 12s. (which sum includes £98 6s., raised by Miss Edwards, in addition to the sum subscribed in 1887-8; and £213 6s. refunded by the British Museum and the Boston Museum for the transport of objects presented to these institutions by the Fund); (3) sale of publications and reports, £150 14s. 6d., of which sum £123 10s. 6d. was received through Miss Edwards; (4) interest on the deposit account, £39 7s. 9d. As compared with the financial report of last year (1887-8) the results were as follows: In 1887-8 the gross expenditure was £2341 19s. 11d., as against £3009 6s. 3d. for 1888-9, and the gross receipts were £2563 4s. 11d., as against £2997 11s. 8d.; the home receipts through subscriptions for 1888-9 being £86 8s. 9d., and the American subscriptions £300, in excess of those in 1887-8. The receipts for publications showed an increase of £87 11s., due to the fact that Miss Edwards had taken over all matters connected with the sale and printing of the Fund publications. A comparison of the cash balance for 1887-8 and 1888-9 showed for the former year a sum of £2532 1s. 2d., and for the latter year £2520 6s. 7d. Mr. Grueber further stated that, since the accounts were closed at the end of the financial year, the committee had incurred one serious expenditure—that of splitting and transporting some of the remaining blocks from Bubastis. The number of blocks being brought over was sixteen, and the probable cost about £400, i.e., not exceeding £25 per block. Mr. Grueber concluded his report by saying that he was glad to be able to present such a favourable account of the finances to the meeting, which was all the more favourable since no heavy liabilities were at present incurred, excepting the one he had just mentioned. Mr. Grueber then read a letter he had just received from the Rev. W. C. Winslow (vice-president and hon. treasurer for America), describing the cordial reception of Miss Amelia B. Edwards in America, and the intense interest created by her lectures.

Mr. A. S. Murray, keeper of Greek and Roman Antiquities in the British Museum, moved the adoption of the report, and remarked that if any of the subscribers grudged the heavy expenses of bringing over the monuments from Bubastis, they might satisfy themselves of their very great value by a visit to the British Museum. In seconding the report, Mr. W. Fowler, of the memorable Fowler Fund, remarked on the very great proportion of the receipts that come from American subscribers. He also spoke of the pleasure the meeting must feel at the account of the hon. secretary’s progress through America, and feelingly alluded to the blank caused by her absence. Sir John Fowler, in putting the resolution, took occasion to endorse in the strongest terms Mr. W. Fowler’s remarks as to the interest felt by the meeting in Miss Edwards’s American lectures; and at the same time he remarked that her absence was greatly regretted on this important occasion, which thus formed a marked contrast to the last meeting.

A paper which had been prepared by Miss

Emily Paterson, private secretary to Miss Edwards, was then read by Mr. Grueber.

"In the absence of the hon. secretary I have drawn up a short statement of the work done since the meeting in April last. You will remember that Miss Edwards forestalled the report which should have been given at this meeting, namely, the description of M. Naville's work at Bubastis during the season of 1888-9. There are now but a few supplementary details to add to that report. No further discoveries have been made, the exploration season of 1889-90 having not yet commenced. Not, therefore, until our next meeting shall we learn what success may attend M. Naville's explorations at Ahnas-el-Medineh, that being the site chosen for this season's work. The committee, however, have despatched Count d'Hulst to Tell Bastu, to rescue some of the more valuable monuments yet on the ground from certain destruction at the hands of the native population, who, even in the short interval since Count d'Hulst was on the spot, have defaced many of those precious historical sculptures. You may remember that, at the April meeting, Miss Edwards told us how M. Naville had discovered among the ruins of the Great Temple two most important inscriptions dating the temple back to the IVth Dynasty, i.e. to the reigns of Khufu (the builder of the Great Pyramid), and Khafra (the builder of the Second Pyramid). These inscriptions are of such great historical value that the committee decided to bring them over, and, with your sanction, to present them to the British Museum. In order to carry on the historical sequence of the inscriptions, and at the same time to increase the value of last year's gift to the British Museum (namely, the throne and head of the Hyksos king, supposed to be Apepi), we are also bringing over the block inscribed with his cartouche. The XIIth Dynasty is the next represented on the blocks discovered, and this M. Naville found on a block bearing the erased cartouche of Useresen I., usurped by Rameses II. This also is on its way to England. There is still another historical monument being sent over, which is inscribed by Seti II., of the XIXth Dynasty, the supposed grandson of Rameses the Great, of whom there is a fine statue in the British Museum. Besides the above-named objects, the committee were anxious to rescue as many as possible of the beautiful bas-reliefs found in the Festival Hall and the Hall of Osorkon. They have, therefore, offered to present slabs to local provincial museums, whenever the cost of transport can be guaranteed. I am happy to tell you that seven blocks are being brought over on these terms: one for Manchester, two for Bolton, one for Greenock, one for Tamworth, one for York, and one for Canada, the transport expenses of which are paid for by persons interested in the respective museums. These bas-reliefs are similar to the one presented last year to the British Museum, representing Osorkon II. and Queen Karoama. The committee have also taken it upon themselves to offer a selection of objects from Tell Basta to the Berlin Museum and to the Louvre. You will, I feel sure, approve of this step when you hear the circumstances under which the offers were made. Prof. Erman, of the Berlin Museum, having given up his prior claim to excavate at Ahnas-el-Medineh in favour of M. Naville, has placed the Fund under an obligation; and it seemed only right that we should do all in our power to show our gratitude. I may add that the expenses of transport will be borne by the Berlin Museum. It seemed desirable to show M. Maspero, our French vice-president, the like civility; and the committee, therefore, made a similar offer to the Louvre through him."

At the close of the paper Mr. Grueber explained the circumstances in which the committee had determined on the site of Ahnas in conference with M. Naville, who was present for the purpose at one of their meetings. Finding that M. Grebaut, the director of museums and excavations in Egypt, desired to excavate at Memphis, M. Naville had ascertained that Ahnas might be worked by the Fund. It may be explained that Ahnas is the site of the great city Heracleopolis, which is situate at the entrance of the Fayûm, and, after Memphis and Heliopolis, was probably the most important city north of the Thebaid. When in the VIIIth Dynasty Memphis apparently lost its pre-eminence, the Egyptian monarchy passed over in the first instance to Heracleopolis before it was established at Thebes. It was probably a Biblical site—the Hanes mentioned by the Prophet Isaiah xxx. 4—this name almost exactly preserving the ancient Egyptian Khinensu (Coptic *Hns*), surviving in the modern appellation Ahnas.

Prof. Stuart Poole wished to add a word to the statement that had just been read in reference to the extraordinary energy, patience, and self-denying labour shown by Count d'Hulst in undertaking for the third time the onerous duty of transporting the monuments from the site. He had to work against time, from no fault of his own, and latterly with his feet in the water through the infiltration of the inundation into the mound. Mr. Poole felt that so distinguished a man, formerly an officer of the *corps d'élite* of the Prussian army, and who carried his military devotion into the service of the Fund, should receive some recognition in the way of encouragement and a vote of thanks. Count d'Hulst had leisure until M. Naville's arrival in the middle of January, and was anxious to employ that time in excavations on the site of the first Muslim capital of Egypt, El-Fustât, two miles south of Cairo, and immediately joining the old fortress of Egyptian Babylon. This excavation, suggested by the eminent connoisseur of lustre-ware, Mr. Henry Wallis, had for its object the determination of the sequence of Persian and Arab lustre-ware by the discovery of specimens at different levels in sites of known date. The result would be the classification in all the collections of Europe of a most interesting class of objects, at present in hopeless disorder. The first selection was to be made by Mr. Franks for the British Museum. In consideration of the high importance of the project, the committee of the Egypt Exploration Fund had granted £35, and private friends had contributed £33 10s.; but at least £100 was required. Mr. Poole said it would be a very gracious act if any members of the Fund would contribute small sums towards the completion of the sum needed. It may be added that Mr. William Fowler contributed £5, and Mr. William Rome, F.S.A., £1 ls., in the room.

Prof. Poole then read a paper by Mr. Griffith, formerly student of the Fund, now in the British Museum, prefacing it by the remark that it was one of the most interesting papers that had been contributed to a meeting of the Fund:

"It is now eighteen months since I returned from Egypt; and, as secondhand information is not desirable, I must ask the members of the society to permit a somewhat broad interpretation of one phrase which appeared on the notices of this meeting, and indulgently to allow that a portion of the work done in the spring of 1888 may be considered to represent 'Recent Explorations.' There is, in fact, one section of my doings in Egypt last year—I refer to the examination of the rock-tombs of Siût—of which no report has been presented hitherto, although without your aid in sending me on a mission to Egypt

I could not have brought the work to a successful issue, and, moreover, I must not forget that a small grant was liberally made by the committee to cover some travelling and other expenses incurred in my last expedition to Siût. This report is now made, not without a hope that, since a precedent has been created, the society may feel justified in undertaking work of a similar description on future occasions, perhaps in the form of a short campaign of exploration in Upper Egypt. The title of our society—'The Egypt Exploration Fund'—however, suggests a scheme which would indeed throw such a trifling altogether into the shade—I mean an archaeological survey of Egypt. Is it fanciful to suppose that such an undertaking is possible? The committee wields a very large revenue, which on occasion shows itself capable of expanding. On this head I see no immediate difficulty. The sister (or almost parent) society—the Palestine Exploration Fund—has successfully accomplished, in a far more difficult and infinitely less productive region, the survey of the land west of the Jordan. With the countenance and support of the Egyptian government, we might in a few years sweep the whole surface of the country, and gather in the harvest which hastens to ruin with every day that passes. But what would be most useful and most practicable? Egypt has already been industriously searched by travellers and scientific expeditions. The efforts of the French School at Cairo and of independent tourists are not relaxing. What is needed is a sifting of information, an index to the monuments, a description from a new point of view, taking each city, its tombs and temples, as a whole, and not merely extracting scenes, inscriptions, and architectural features. The latter method was wisely enough followed in former days, when our knowledge of the country, its history, and habits, was almost nil, when the harvest was abundant to overflowing but the workmen few, and the most striking and choice pieces alone could be gathered. An unpretentious, but very effective, way of making the survey would be simply to secure the services of one or two persons who should, as a preliminary, make themselves acquainted with the whole literature of Egyptian exploration, should possess a knowledge of Arabic, and be capable of taking photographs. The programme would be for the explorers to pass from end to end of the country, from Migdol to Syene, from Iskenderiyeh to El' Arish, verifying the accounts of travellers, searching out new monuments, and describing the order and condition of those already known, collecting place-names, and, after issuing temporary reports and monographs, finally gathering all the evidence into one connected survey, to which everyone could confidently refer who might wish to learn the position and condition of any monument, what was known about it, in what works other and more detailed accounts might be found, and how far investigation was still needed. The friendly criticism of scholars all over the world might be invited; and the stores of information which lie hidden in MS. collections in various parts of Europe would thus be brought together for the production of a work which, as a stimulus and guide, would be invaluable. It would be one of the foundations of all further research, would prevent much of that misapplication of labour which is almost unavoidable for the best-read explorer, and would point out to the casual traveller aims to which his energies might be applied with the most useful results. The cost of the scheme might be estimated at from £100 to £250 a year for each person employed; an explorer living constantly in Egypt would not find his mere expenses rise much

above the former sum. I am not sure that this scheme would interfere with the annual excavations. Even if it did so, on its completion the members of the society would resume their first method of discovery, with the satisfactory assurance that they had done their best for those relics of the past which unhappily never received the kindly protection that nature has extended to so many, by hiding them under sand, rubbish, and alluvium. I believe that two years would be ample for a thoroughly useful sketch-survey—i.e., for the verification, numbering, and cataloguing of the remains with slight but accurate descriptions, and for bringing together the literary references. What a mass of misapprehension would disappear! What a crowd of new revelations would dawn upon the science of Egyptology from this alone! But I hardly believe that the Exploration Fund would relinquish this vastly interesting field until it had, with its own hand so to speak, filled in many of the details that at first were merely indicated, were hardly indicated, by the sketch. The importance of this matter has led me far afield. But in fact I put forward the account of the Siût inscriptions rather as an illustration of what still requires to be done even where the Egyptologist has been hard at work; and I may mention that a few miles south from Siût at Der Rifeh, in 1887, I was the first to copy the inscriptions of no less than seven important tombs, tenanted by an interesting colony of Copts. In every part of Egypt there are monuments vaguely known of, but left unvisited. It is not necessary to enter into details of the work at Siût; suffice it to say that for more than two years I have been collecting the scattered remnants of inscriptions which in or about the twenty-fifth century B.C. were carved or painted on the walls of certain tombs in that great necropolis. I have recently published the results, amounting to about 550 lines, some of which, however, exist only in half-intelligible copies, while others are mutilated. In one tomb alone I should estimate the number of lines originally at hardly less than 700; but the painted plaster of this noblest of Egyptian private tombs has fallen from the walls, and it is fortunate that so many as 350 incised lines are still traceable. Once there were many inscribed tombs, now there are only four; but they still form one of the most interesting groups that are known. To begin with, the long-sought dynasties of Heracleopolis, the existence of which Manetho faithfully recorded as interposed between the Memphite kings of the Early Monarchy and the Theban of the Middle Kingdom, has at last, by means of these texts, been localised with certainty. Manetho placed them in order as the IXth and Xth. The extracts from his writings do not name the kings which composed them; but they record that the founder was called Akhthoes (a name which may be compared with the Egyptian Kheti), adding a statement which can hardly be considered historical, that he was 'of a savage disposition, and oppressed the people throughout Egypt; at length being seized with madness he was slain by a crocodile.' The biographical notes in Manetho probably come from myths and popular stories: the earlier ones are therefore almost valueless for history, but the names and numbers are taken from reliable sources. Unfortunately, numbers are very liable to be corrupted, and those relating to the Heracleopolite dynasties have certainly suffered. However, at the least computation, there were twenty-three kings, who reigned 285 years. Of these not a single monumental trace had been observed until, in 1885, our illustrious vice-president, M. Maspero, put forth the suggestion that the tombs of Siût were of the age of the Heracleopolite kings. This remark, made *en passant*,

notwithstanding its source, seems to have attracted little attention. In 1887, however, when I copied many of the inscriptions at Siût, the same idea struck me. A certain Kheti boasted (owing to his virtues) 'Siût was contented under my administration, Heracleopolis Magna praised God for me, Upper and Lower Egypt said, this is the wisdom of a great prince' (tomb v., ll. 23 and 24). Now Heracleopolis Magna was 150 miles away from Siût; and, as it was not mentioned in the rest of the inscription, it was difficult to see why its citizens should express any opinion, unless it were the capital of the whole country. Granting this, Kheti's boast related first to his own city, next to the capital, lastly (as crowning all) to the whole of Egypt. This would be a very natural order. And, if the conclusion were true, then a view, which it appears has lately become fashionable, locating the Heracleopolite dynasties at Heracleopolis Parva, in the Delta, must fall to the ground. Gathering together all the published material from the Siût tombs, I consulted the *Description de l'Égypte*, the great memorial of Napoleon's expedition. In that work, although half concealed by blunders, lay the proof that the larger tombs, both inscribed and uninscribed, might be divided into two different groups—the one simple in design, the other complex; one showing a predominance of the names of Tefab and Kheti, the other with the name of Hept'efa. The first of these groups contained the name of an unplaced king, and frequent mention of Heracleopolis Magna. Manetho was right again! The last visit to Siût—in which, with the aid of a tall ladder, I copied especially the inscriptions of the great tomb—led to the happy discovery of the age of the second group. A scene in the great hall—finely painted, but much dimmed and obliterated—exhibited the excavator of the grotto in adoration before the cartouches of Useresen I., a king of the XIIth Dynasty. To discover the artist's signature upon a masterpiece is always interesting; in 1887 I found that the leader in a train of persons bearing offerings for the ghost of Hept'efa was the "Kherheb, the decorator of this tomb, making it like a palace, Kheti, the son of Pthahmesef." A further pleasure was in store, if there is pleasure in discovering what is thought to have been irretrievably lost. Among the MSS. of the British Museum is a valuable collection of drawings brought together by Hay. Hoping to find notes of Siût, I turned over the pages of the portfolios, and, to my amazement, found four complete texts beautifully copied about the year 1830, apparently by Arundale. They are the best of all the old copies that I have seen. Three of these afforded a most useful check on my own, supplementing them with some signs that had been destroyed since 1830. But the most precious of all is a Heracleopolite text, a large section of which I knew only from the *Description de l'Égypte*, and there so badly rendered that hardly any meaning could be derived from it. It still remains full of difficulties, but the signs composing it are almost precisely ascertained. Of the Heracleopolite tombs there are three in which inscriptions are visible. The *Description de l'Égypte* makes it clear that in 1799 the tombs were almost complete in their general features, though a good deal damaged. Since that time the façades have been blasted away and the square pillars broken down: numbers of inscriptions have gone entirely and the remnant has been injured. For the convenience of those who wish to consult the hieroglyphs, I give references to the numbers in the publication. There the Heracleopolite tombs are numbered iii., iv., and v., in order as they are found from south to north, all being on the same level and separated from each other only by narrow party walls. Tomb iii. belonged to a certain Tefaba. The door,

contrary to custom, was guarded by terrible curses on violators, and from the inscriptions within, we learn that Tefaba lived in a troubled period of civil war; his son, however, succeeded him, and Tefaba's memory was revered in the city. The curses and the recital of his virtues were, notwithstanding, deemed an insufficient protection so long as the record of Tefaba's exploits in the civil war bore witness against him on the wall; so, while it was still incomplete, the cutting of that inscription was stopped, and a more harmless substitute was found, consisting of a figure of Tefaba, accompanied by written platitudes painted on a fresh coating of plaster. The plaster has fallen off and revealed the fragments of the compromising inscription. The occupant of the next tomb was Kheti, who, according to a custom still observed in the XIIth Dynasty, bore a longer appellation compounded with the name of his father, thus—'Tefab's son Kheti.' In tomb iii. we had Tefaba; but I think that Tefaba is identical with the father of Kheti, the name being shortened perhaps owing to the compound. This Kheti was high in favour with the King Ka-meri-râ, whom he accompanied on an expedition to the south, and from whom he received the commission to rebuild the temple of Apuat. His wife was named Tefab, like his father. This tomb was also protected by a curse engraved upon the entrance, but less conspicuously than the last. Tomb v. was to receive the body of another Kheti, who is very probably the son of Kheti I. Unfortunately, there is no copy of the inscriptions on the façades, but I imagine that the political feuds had died out in his time. At the inner end is a false door, upon the jambs of which Kheti is described as a man of valour; but more stress is laid on the agricultural prosperity of his district and the improvements which he made in the way of irrigation. Before concluding, I will briefly notice the great tomb i., now called Stabl Antar, which, as I have said, belongs to the reign of Useresen I. Heptefaa, to judge from his titles, was one of the greatest local princes of his age, but unfortunately he has left no details of his life. There is, however, one very remarkable inscription in the tomb. It is the longest record yet discovered of the earlier periods, and consists of a command to the priest or servant who had charge of the property of his ghost or *ka* to see to the due execution of ten contracts which the prince Heptefaa had made with the priests of the two great temples—one at Siût itself, the other in its cemetery—and with the guardians of the necropolis, for the honour and welfare of his ghost. For how many centuries was that magnificent tomb visited by the processions on the great feast days at the turn of the year? We know, at any rate, that the history of the sepulchres of the XIIth Dynasty was already forgotten in the thirteenth century before Christ; so that a scribe admiring the tomb of Khnumhotep at Beni-Hasan, having read in it the name of the ancient chief city 'the nursery of Cheops,' would praise the glorious temple of Khufu!"

In commenting on the paper, Mr. Poole observed that its subject was twofold—the proposal for an archaeological survey of Egypt, and the record of a remarkable discovery by Mr. Griffith. With reference to the survey, he most strongly recommended the meeting to adopt the project, which would enable the directors of excavation and the committee of the Fund to make the best possible choice of a site for their labours. No doubt M. Naville and Mr. Petrie had been very fortunate in their choice; but it would be satisfactory to know in future what site was likely to produce the best results. Mr. Poole stated that it would cost at the utmost a tenth of the income of the Fund to carry on this important work

continuously, which would be a permanent record for the use of explorers and even travellers. Mr. Griffith's discovery of a distinct record of the Heracleopolite line, which ruled between the Memphite kings and the old Theban family, had, like another Forth bridge, bridged over the last great chasm in Egyptian history. Though our eminent vice-president, M. Maspero, had suspected the existence of Heracleopolite monuments, Mr. Griffith was the first to identify them. In Mr. Griffith's absence it was right to say the Fund should be proud of the achievement of their Egyptian student. The president remarked that he felt the great importance of Mr. Griffith's most valuable discovery, and the high interest of his paper. With reference to the proposed archaeological survey, he had at first felt somewhat alarmed; but, considering Mr. Griffith's very moderate estimate and the great extent of the survey, he cordially agreed to accept the proposal, and moved the following resolution: "That the meeting offers its best thanks to Mr. Griffith for his able and interesting paper, and approves the suggestion of an archaeological survey of Egypt, referring the matter to the committee." Mr. Poole, in seconding the resolution, said he would have preferred this duty should have been performed by Prof. Hayter Lewis, who was especially competent to speak on the subject; but he had been requested to make an announcement that the annual memoir for the current year, *Bubastis*, would be of the greatest interest, and beautifully illustrated with sixty-three plates. Mr. Baylis here interposed, and appositely read a clause in the articles of association, drawn, it may be added, under his able direction, giving the Fund the necessary powers for the archaeological survey. From his own recollection of a visit he felt that this was a most desirable work, as travellers would need no longer to pass through Egypt without definite knowledge of each of the many sites on the banks of the Nile.

Mr. Baylis said that before the meeting broke up he would like to propose that the best thanks of members and subscribers be given to Sir John Fowler for the interest which he has taken in the Fund, and for so ably presiding over the meeting. His experience and knowledge were of much value to the Fund, as well as his business habits. Mr. MacGregor seconded this resolution. The president expressed his acknowledgments, and the meeting terminated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THOMAS BEWICK AND "THE FARMER'S BOY."
London: Dec. 8, 1889.

If Mr. Muir had retained his copy of the first edition of this book he need not have written a letter about the probabilities of the third.

However, it is pleasant to find that his examination gives results so near to the fact. The eight cuts upon which Mr. Muir spends his skill (together with one other which forms a frontispiece to the book) are distinctly stated in the edition I have described—and which Mr. Muir once possessed—to be by Anderson. Surely the matter may here rest.

ERNEST RADFORD.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

THE fifth of the series of "One Man" photographic exhibitions will open next week at the Camera Club, Bedford Street, W.C. It will consist of a selection of the figure and *genre* studies of the late D. G. Rejlander. The private view is on Monday evening, when also a number of lantern pictures will be shown on a screen. The exhibition will remain open for about six weeks.

MR. T. NELSON MACLEAN has now on view in his studio, 13 Bruton Street, W., a bronze statue of the late Sir Arthur Phayre, executed for Rangoon.

WE have received from Mr. Arthur Ackermann, of Regent-street, a parcel of the Christmas cards produced by Messrs. L. Prang & Co., of Boston, U.S. All are handsomely printed, and most of the designs are more appropriate than used to be the case a few years ago. Conspicuous among them is a dainty volume, entitled, "Notes from Mendelssohn," which is illustrated in colours from drawings by Louis K. Harlow.

WE may also mention three little booklets of so-called "etchings," illustrating the Four Seasons, Stratford-on-Avon, and the Lake District, which are issued by Messrs. John Walker & Co. The name of the artist is not given, though he has no reason to be ashamed of his work. In the two last, the pages suffer from overcrowding. From the same publishers also comes a pretty volume called *The Yule Log*, which consists of verses written by the American lady who awoke one morning to find herself famous as the author of "Curfew must not ring to-night." Her name is Rosa Hartwick Thorpe.

THE STAGE.

"THE GONDOLIERS" AT THE SAVOY.

THE daily newspapers do not seem to have all grasped—one or two of them, perhaps, were not particularly desirous of grasping—that one of the greatest sources of attractiveness in Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's new piece lies in its possession of the charm and value of the *à propos*. In it the Socialist is confounded—the lover of an impossible equality is put to naught. Now it has only twice before occurred to these collaborating brethren either to seize a theme which should have a special message for us to-day, or somehow to engraft the message on a theme that would at all events bear it. With a good deal that was morbid and a good deal that was ridiculous in the craze of Aestheticism—which, beginning with the real devotees of art, spread itself among suburban and provincial imitators—the admirable satire of "Patience" effectually dealt. The craze for "everything that's Japanese" was at the same time ministered to and mildly rebuked in "The Mikado." Incidentally, of course, in all the other operas there were hits for this or that weakness, this or that affectation. And I do not say that the satire whose appearance one welcomes in "The Gondoliers" is other than incidental—I do not say that, like that of "Patience" and that of "The Mikado," it attaches itself of necessity to the theme, and is of the warp and woof of the story. But I do say that, though it is incidental, it has the two great marks of intention in literature—"recurrence" and "emphasis," they have been defined by I forget what almost classic authority. Mr. Gilbert, like most level-headed gentlemen—like most important minds, one need hardly add—is, in the broad sense, on the side of the Conservative. And whatever may have been the precise aim of a writer content generally to shoot folly as it flies, no more timely tract than "The Gondoliers" has ever been issued. We have the entertaining narrative of the personal advantages that accrue to a monarch who must govern on

republican principles. We have the story of the misguided pity of the blameless ruler who, when drinking Rhenish wine, was made sad to think

"that some at junket or at jink
Must be content with toddy.
He wished all men as rich as he
(And he was rich as rich could be);
So to the top of every tree
Promoted everybody."

And then the two rulers in the realm of Mr. Gilbert's imagination—Marco and Giuseppe—amiably propose to "respect the republican fallacies" of the crowd that suffers them.

"For everyone who feels inclined,
Some post we undertake to find,
Congenial with his peace of mind,
And all shall equal be."

They amiably proceed to details:

"The Noble Lord who rules the state—
The Noble Lord who cleans the plate—
The Noble Lord who scrubs the grate—
They all shall equal be."

"The Lord High Bishop orthodox—
The Lord High Coachman on the box—
The Lord High Vagabond in the stocks—
They all shall equal be."

And, to pass from this smartly given lesson, Mr. Gilbert would hardly be himself if he did not, somewhere or other in his libretto, express his opinion of the natural cowardice of man. The Duke of Plaza-Toro is the important person who betrays a failing he must share with the humble. He it was who, in martial enterprise, was wont to lead his regiment from behind—"he found it less exciting."

"But when his regiment ran,
His place was at the fore, O!
That celebrated,
Cultivated,
Underrated
Nobleman,
The Duke of Plaza-Toro!"

And it is told further, of this leader of men, that when he was informed that he—and all his fellows—would be shot unless they left the service, his nerve was so marvellous that he did not for one single instant hesitate to resign. With admirable promptitude he sent in his *démision*. And thus,

"To men of grosser clay,
He always showed the way."

So much for the humour of the piece, which is indeed abundant—which I enjoyed to the uttermost but need not attempt to analyse. For once, the beauty of the words—at all events, their prettiness and neatness—is on a par with their fun. A quaint Elizabethan flavour resides in many of the verses. What could be more appropriate than the words of the ballad which Luiz addresses to Casilda?

"Thy wintry scorn I dearly prize,
Thy mocking pride I bless;
Thy scorn is love in deep disguise,
Thy pride is lowliness."

"Thine angry frown
Is but a gown,
That serves to dress
Thy gentleness."

No; I need quote no more, but Mr. Gilbert has never written smarter, neater, daintier verse.

The actual story?—was it not written at length in every morning newspaper, on Monday? I have not the courage to attempt to retell it. Let us pass on to the piece's interpretation:

saying first of the music that if it contains no one thing so inevitably and persuasively melodious as the "I have a song to sing, O!" of the "Yeoman of the Guard" it is, as a whole, at least upon a level with the other lighter efforts of Sir Arthur Sullivan—that it adapts itself exquisitely to the period of the action of the play—the middle of the eighteenth century—that it recalls, now the Spanish dance, and now, I take it, the music of Galuppi. The interpretation, both vocal and dramatic, is of unquestioned completeness. There were some who imagined that a piece at the Savoy could not be successful without the assistance of Mr. Grossmith. But how vain a fancy! That estimable, though limited, comedian and admirable social favourite must after all needs be reckoned as no exception to the rule, "*Il n'y a pas d'homme nécessaire.*" Perhaps if anyone was necessary, it was Mr. Barrington; and he has returned, genial and serviceable as ever, and he received what he deserved—the warmest of welcomes. Mr. Courtice Pounds would, no doubt, have been more telling if he had been associated with Mr. Barrington a little less constantly. Mr. Wyatt is funny enough as the Duke of Plaza-Toro, and Mr. Brownlow and Mr. Denny—the one as Casilda's lover and the other as the Grand Inquisitor—ought not to be left uncommended. The Duchess of Plaza-Toro is Miss Rosina Brandram, to whom there is allotted one good solo, to which she does justice. The Venetian *contadine* whom Mr. Barrington and Mr. Courtice Pounds—whatever their Italian names may be—eventually marry are played by two established favourites—by Miss Jessie Bond, who for several years past has been faithful to Mr. D'Oyley Carte's company, and by Miss Geraldine Ulmar, whom I remember first to have seen in New York, in the earliest days of her association with "The Mikado." That both these ladies are vocalists of gifts and accomplishments is now sufficiently known. Nor can it be necessary, we should think, to call attention to Miss Ulmar's charm in the dance, nor to Miss Bond's quite exceptional proficiency in the art of comedy. Miss Bond acts with brains. Last of all let me name Miss Decima Moore, the *débütante*, a very young vocalist, with a voice charmingly bright and fresh. She is a sister of Miss Bertha Moore, of Miss Jessie Moore, and of Mrs. Pertwee, of Brighton; and from her much may be expected. A pupil, last of all, of Miss Rose Hersee, Miss Decima Moore was intended, until lately, I hear, for the concert stage alone. There, however, it would not have been possible for all her qualities to be displayed, and she was well advised to go to the Savoy Theatre, where, on Saturday night, her success was of the frankest and most undisputed kind. If I had to talk about the scenery—which is Mr. Hawes Craven's—I should say that it is gorgeous, correct, and complete; but that the conditions laid down—Venice and a Moorish court apparently—forbid the opportunity of any very original effect.

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

STAGE NOTES.

A MORNING performance of "The School for Scandal," given at the Vaudeville Theatre on Thursday, scarcely demands special notice; and, save for the production of Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's piece at the Savoy, there may be said to be a lull in the movement of events at the theatre. When "Clarissa" takes the place of the present temporary programme at the Vaudeville, Mr. Conway—at this moment on the high seas, we believe—will appear as Lovelace. Miss Winifred Emery may almost have been born to play Clarissa, and it is therefore satisfactory to learn that she will play it before long in the Strand. The theatres, we may mention, have, with hardly an exception, felt the effect of Mr. Barnum's rivalry at Olympia. That place holds as many people as may be contained in many playhouses; but money-getting does not appear to be Mr. Barnum's only object in London. Every American comes over, sooner or later, to get a *cachet* from England, wherewith he will profit in America; and it is humorously suggested that it is to obtain the requisite *cachet* that Mr. Barnum—a youthful *débütant*, of eighty, so to say—is now among us.

We hear that it is likely that Mr. Willard, who proceeds to America at the end of next summer, will take Australia for a few weeks on his way back. In the United States it is likely that Mr. Willard will be seen in at least two characters: first and foremost, of course, in the part of Cyrus Blenkern in "The Middleman" of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER—though he will continue to act at the Adelphi until towards the end of March—will in February undertake the management of the Avenue Theatre. A farcical comedy, adapted by Mr. Aidé, will we hear, be the first piece to be produced.

MR. DAVENPORT ADAMS's new little book, *Rambles in Book Land* (Eliot Stock), will interest many a writer, as well as many a reader, by the delicacy and suppleness of its treatment of literary themes. It will please the bibliophile by the "get-up," which is happily characteristic of a publisher who never neglects externals. But we refer to it in this particular place on account of the lore and the quaint humour with which Mr. Davenport Adams has treated several stage subjects, so that his essays on them shall afford worthy entertainment to the playgoer. If we mistake not, certain of these chapters have appeared in the *Globe* newspaper. "Cupid in Comedy" is a chapter ingenious and learned; "Poets at the Play"—like everything else in the dainty little volume—is thoroughly worth perusal; but commend us most to "The Stage Handkerchief," the work of a real humorist and of a writer who, at his best, is at once spirited and scholarly.

MUSIC.

RECENT CONCERTS.

SIR C. HALLE gave his second Orchestral Concert on Friday, December 6. The programme commenced with an interesting Overture by Gade entitled "Hamlet," which was admirably interpreted. Schubert's lovely *Entr'acte* and *Air de Ballet* from the "Rosamunde" music followed, and the delicate and refined playing under the sympathetic guidance of the conductor produced loud applause. Three fine movements from No. 12 in B minor of the Twelve Grand Concertos of Handel for stringed band were also given. Sir Charles Halle appeared not only as conductor but as performer at this concert, and his rendering of Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto in G was remarkably neat, and, better still, poetical. In

the first movement he introduced the second of the two cadenzas written by the composer. For this Concerto the orchestra was under the clever conductorship of Mr. Willy Hess. The second part of the programme was devoted to Dvorak's third Symphony in F (op. 76). This work also bears the opus number 24, and, according to a statement of the composer, was written in 1875. The music of the opening *Allegro* is so fresh and vigorous that it cannot fail to give pleasure; and yet, as a whole, it does not appear quite satisfactory. The second and third movements are attractive. The *Finale*—which has been compared to a wild Bacchanalian revel—is particularly characteristic, and Dvorak here asserts in the fullest manner his nationality. The performance of the Symphony was excellent.

On the following afternoon Dr. Villiers Stanford's Sonata in D minor (op. 39) for pianoforte and violoncello was given for the second time at the Popular Concerts. On the first occasion we were at the Shoreditch performance of Spohr's "Fall of Babylon," and therefore could not notice it. In the opening *Allegretto con moto*, there is something terse and dignified about the thematic material; but the working-out section, skilful as it is, does not give any fuller revelation of it. The slow movement consists of a *cantabile* twice interrupted by a light episode in fast time. The opening is refined and attractive, but the episodes make but a slight impression. The *Finale* is contrapuntal and lively, and its only fault is that it appeals almost entirely to the intellect. The work was performed by Signor Piatti and the composer. The former played with his usual charm, but the latter, though technically correct, gave a somewhat cold rendering of the pianoforte part. The programme concluded with Brahms' delightful Gipsy Songs (op. 103), well sung by Mrs. Henschel, Miss Marguerite Hall, and Messrs. Shakespeare and Henschel, and well accompanied by Madame Haas.

On Monday, December 9, this lady was heard in Beethoven's Sonata in A flat (op. 110). There were readings here and there not quite in character with the music; but, judged as a whole, it was the most thoughtful interpretation of Beethoven's music which Madame Haas has as yet given us. She was greatly applauded, but refused the encore. Mr. Plunket Greene was the vocalist, and he sang with much intelligence songs by Brahms and Parry. The programme included Beethoven's Quartet in F (op. 59, no. 1), to which Madame Néruda and her associates rendered full justice. When will the programme-books be purified of their many inexact statements? In spite of protest some are repeated season after season. Last Monday there was one of long standing. The year 1826 is gratuitously pointed out as that of Beethoven's death.

A concert was given on Wednesday evening by the students of the Royal Academy of Music at St. James's Hall. A Christmas Carol for soli, chorus, organ, and orchestra, by Miss Mary Toulmin, proved a bright and effective composition, and the forerunner, let us hope, of some important work from her pen. The chorus sang well. Of the three ladies who played the pianoforte Miss Amy E. Horrocks, in the first movement of Schumann's Concerto in A minor, was the most satisfactory, but her tone was weak. It seems to us that the pieces selected are not always suited to the character and capabilities of the players. A good performance of the Trio, "In better worlds," from "Fidelio," was given by Miss O. F. Bethell and Messrs. Edwards and Morton. The last named (baritone) promises well as a singer. The programme included Haydn's "Salomon" Symphony in B flat. J. S. SHEDLOCK.